

THURSTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 11, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.
Jackson Maynard's office

Members Present: Heidi Raedel Magaro, Mark Wheeler, Patrick O'Connor, Jim Laukkonen, Laura Murphy, Bill Pope, Jackson Maynard, Amy Perlman
Members Absent: Victoria Byerly, Trevor Zandell
Others Present: Heather Ligtenberg

1. **Call to order** 5:40 p.m.
Laura welcomed Amy Perlman, a new Board Member.
2. **Approval of Minutes of May 8, 2019 Board Meeting** - Mark moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Jim. The motion carried without objections.
3. **New Business**
 - 3.1 Annual Dinner Planning Committee (Jackson) – Jackson reported that the committee met twice over the summer to brainstorm different venues in the area to have the annual meeting. The committee members contacted the venues for prices. The Committee prepared a survey to email to the members to ask them what kind of event they would like to have, venue, which month, and price. Jackson shared the results of the survey. Jackson recommended publishing the survey results on the website to show members the results. The venue, type of food, and date the members liked the most was the Olympia Golf & Country Club in late May with heavy hors d'oeuvres. Heather will contact the Olympia Golf & Country Club to see if they have any dates available in May 2020.
 - 3.2 Donation Applications (Heather) – Laura shared that we received a thank you letter from SPSCC for the TCBA donation this past year. Laura shared that she met with the Director at SPSCC to discuss if the TCBA has an obligation to donate each year and SPSCC said No, the TCBA does not have an obligation to donate. Heather shared that we have received five donation applications for 2020. The donation applications will be discussed and donation amounts decided on at the Board Retreat in November 2019.
 - 3.3 New Board Member Applications (Laura) – After a discussion, Geoffrey Hulsey and Michael Young were selected as the two new TCBA board members. Laura will reach out to Geoffrey and Michael and the other applicants that applied.
 - 3.4 November Board Retreat (Heather) – The Board would like to have a Board Retreat in November again. Heather will reach out to the DRC to see if a Joel Greene, the facilitator from the DRC is available again this year. Heather will send a Doodle Calendar to the Board to find a date that works for everyone. Bill said he is happy to host the meeting again.
 - 3.5 CLE Partnership with TCVLS (Bill) – Bill received an email from TCVLS asking if the TCBA would be a joint sponsor for a CLE, Working with Transgender and Gender Diverse People, on October 7th. The sponsorship does not require a monetary donation, but TCVLS would like the TCBA to help promote the CLE to our members. The board said yes to a joint sponsorship for this CLE and would be happy to email the CLE flyer to the TCBA members.
 - 3.6 TCBA/TCVLS joint board member who is on TCBA board (Laura) – Laura shared that TCVLS's Bylaws say that a TCBA Board member must also serve on the TCVLS board. Laura will reach out to the new board members to see if they are interested in this position.
 - 3.7 Laura's new email address (Laura) – Please use Lauramurphy2003@comcast.net to contact Laura.

4. **Old Business**

- 4.1 Rules Committee update (Laura) – In late spring was the bench/bar meeting with an update then. The rules were published on September 1st.
- 4.2 United Way Day of Caring update (Jackson) – Jackson shared that the project this year will be at the same place as last year, Pear Blossom Place. The project will include painting and cleaning. There will be an after party at Northwest Beerworks. There are 16 people who have registered to volunteer so far.
- 4.3 Tacoma Rainiers update (Trevor): As for the Tacoma Rainiers update, the event went well. Everyone who attended seemed to have a great time. That said, in spite of putting in a lot of effort to get a Saturday game in the summer and sending out notices many months in advance, we only sold 30 out of 50 tickets as of ~10 days before the event. That forced us to offer reduced ticket prices, and eventually to offer tickets for free to members. Some additional tickets were sold, but in each of the years we have done this, we either have not sold all the tickets or had to scramble to sell them. I think the members have spoken and this is not an event most of them are interested in. I therefore think we need to once again rethink our summer social event for 2020 and not do the Tacoma Rainiers' game again. Laura suggested that everyone be thinking of events for future years.
- 4.4 Diversity Update (Mark) - Mark thanked Heidi for organizing the Diversity CLE yesterday. Mike Martinez is willing to co-chair the section. Heidi shared that she knows someone else that might be interested in co-chairing with Mike. Laura shared that Judge Whitener said she has advice about starting a section. Mark will work with Laura to start a Diversity section. Mark agreed to be the liaison for the new Diversity and Inclusion Committee. Mark moves to approve the creation of a Diversity section, seconded by Heidi. The motion carried without objections. Heidi shared that the Lavender Project had some information on their website about “Quick Tips for Transgender Competency for Court Professionals” and would like to include it in the next Legal Brief.

5. **Treasurer’s Report** (Heidi Raedel Magaro) – May 2019, June 2019, July 2019 & August 2019 Financial Reports Bill moved to approve the treasurers reports for May 2019, June 2019, July 2019, and August 2019, seconded by Patrick. The motion carried without objections.

6. **Monthly Luncheon Update** (Jim Laukkonen) – The Sept. 20th speaker will be the Honorable Thor Hoyte who will present on Tribal law. The October 18th CLE speaker will be John Sinclair who will present on what to do to close up your business and what to think about nearing retirement. Trevor Zandell will be the speaker in for the November CLE. Justice Stephens will be the speaker in February 2020. Jim has some ideas for other topics and if anyone has any ideas to let him know. Laura shared that Anne Gwen would like to present.

7. **Committee Reports**

- 7.1 Bench/Bar (President) – The June meeting went very well and had good attendance. Patrick shared that he thought the meeting room was better this time. Having food at the event is a good idea. Laura will be working on the next Bench Bar meeting.
- 7.2 CLE (Bill, Megan, Heidi, Patrick, Laura, Jackson, Amy) – Bill reported that Heidi did a great job at organizing the Diversity CLE. There was a great turnout. Patrick is working on a Trial Part IV CLE on October 31st. Bill and Megan are working on a two part Family Law CLE. Heidi said an Estate Planning topic would be a good idea for a future CLE. Bill will send an email out to the committee to have a meeting soon.
- 7.3 Newsletter (Heather) – “In Re” article, Chris Coker would like to retire from organizing the “In Re” article. This will be discussed at the Board Retreat.
- 7.4 New Courthouse (Marie Doctor & Trevor Zandell) – Jim shared that the committee has been taking in funds, a website has been set up, Facebook is set up, there is a logo, and a lot of

written material has been produced. The committee is trying to get the word out better and start promoting this. This will be on the April 2020 ballot. The site location has not been finalized yet. They are still looking for a campaign manager. Trevor shared that our PAC, Yes for Safety and Justice, is still trying to raise funds. We are finding it very challenging to raise funds given the limited time our committee members have for fundraising efforts, combined with the inherent difficulty of convincing people/organizations to make contributions to a PAC on a controversial issue. We've even had somewhat of a hard time raising funds from TCBA members. For example, the e-mail that the committee sent out to the TCBA list serve did not result in any contributions. Committee members have had more luck contacting TCBA members directly. The committee is scheduling and conducting speaking engagements with various groups around the county. We'd love to produce a video that can be shared on social media, but need to raise more money first. The board would like to discuss this at the Board Retreat.

8. Section Reports

- 8.1 Family Law (Meredith Gerhart) - We had our meeting this afternoon, and the majority of the time was devoted to the guest speaker, Stephen Tenorio, that I arranged for the meeting. He works for the Legal Assistance Office at JBLM, and he presented on what the Legal Assistance Office does on base, and how we can contact them, or send our clients to them, to help get family law issues addressed "on the military side." It was a very informative presentation, and I think the topic engaged a lot of our members as well as the judicial officers. We also discussed an issue that has come to the attention of the Court with respect to Motions for Default. Attorneys are able to present Motions for Default on the ex parte calendar, but self-represented parties are being directed to file a formal Notice of Hearing, and schedule a Motion on the final orders calendar. The judicial officers have not made a definitive decision on whether they want attorneys to also be required to note Motions for Default on a specific calendar, but it seems like that's where they might be headed. They are going to continue to confer amongst each other and then give us an update. There is a garden party at the Family and Juvenile Court "Seeds of Change" garden scheduled for this Friday, 9/13 at 4:00 p.m.
- 8.2 Pro Bono (Terry Church) – no report received.
- 8.3 Young Lawyers (Ingrid Zerpa) -
August lunch: Our August lunch took place on August 7th at Taildragger Coffee. Four attorneys showed up, including Alex, who is a new attorney in town. The lunches are helping him make new lawyer friends until his Arizona bar scores gets transferred to WA.
August monthly event: On Friday, August 9th at 6:00 p.m. our group met at Matchless Brewing for a nightcap. We had really good attendance at this event. Every time there is beer or wine involved, I can manage to get more people to show up! haha
September lunch: The lunch took place on September 4th at noon at Pho Tumwater. Three attorneys showed up.
Upcoming September event: On Friday, September 20th at 7:00 p.m. we are meeting at the Pierce College Science Dome to watch a film. This is a really cute planetarium, and I think we will have good attendance, but we shall see.
Summer swearing-in ceremony: The swearing-in ceremony will be on Thursday, October 3rd at 4:00 p.m. The happy hour will be at Well 80 at 5:00 p.m. Judge Wilson will be conducting the ceremony. I was able to get three additional sponsors, so we will have a good budget for the happy hour. Please inform our board members of this event so that they can attend.

- 8.4 Criminal Law (Larry Jefferson & Wayne Graham) – We are planning on having a general meeting on September 26th, 2019, to introduce Commissioner Zinn to the Criminal Law Community. I am trying to get a Drug Court CLE for October 17th, 2019. Wayne and I have found two potential replacements for our positions starting in January of 2020. Of course, the candidates would have to be approved by the board. The candidates will be Lindsey Trakel, Thurston County Prosecutor’s office and Angela Colaiuta, Thurston County Public Defense. My plan is to have them write short letter of introduction to be considered for approval by the board. They are both leaders in their offices and would bring new vision to the section. Wayne and I will of course continue to participate.
- 8.5 Real Estate, Land Use, and Environmental Law (Heather Burgess) – Last spring, on behalf of the section, I submitted a proposed change to the Thurston County local rules for LUPA case scheduling in an effort to align County processes a bit better with LUPA’s specific statutory requirements. In April, Commissioner Zinn informed me that the Court was interested in studying the proposed change and would be forming a workgroup to work on it after they completed work on their criminal procedures. I expect that process to kick off sometime this fall or winter and will be looking to the section to participate on the Court workgroup. The RELU section did not meet over the summer. I am currently finalizing dates and locations for section events for 2019-2020 and will be sending out a “Save the Date” to the section email list shortly. My tentative plan includes the following events: October – social, November – lunch, February – lunch, March – social, April – lunch, May – social. Based upon positive feedback from our lunch CLE last year, my plan is to have the three lunch events be free CLEs if at all possible.

9. **Additions to agenda**

10. **Announcements**

- 10.1 Patrick volunteered to be the chair for Law Day in 2020. This will be discussed at the Board Retreat.
- 10.2 Everyone thanked Jackson for hosting the meeting.

11. **Date/location of next meeting:** Patrick O’Connor and Victoria Byerly hosting at Victoria’s office on October 9, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

12. **Adjourn** 7:04 p.m.