

THURSTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 11, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.
Heidi Raedel Magaro's office

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

1. **Call to order** 5:33 p.m.
2. **Approval of Minutes of November 13, 2019 Board Meeting** Patrick moved to approve, seconded by Heidi. The motion carried without objections.
3. **Approval of Minutes of November 16, 2019 Board Retreat** Trevor moved to approve, seconded by Heidi. The motion carried without objections.
4. **New Business**
 - 3.1 Local Hero Award Nominations (Laura) – After discussion, Mary Barrett was selected from the nominations to be the Local Hero Recipient. For next year, a suggestion was made to ask the WSBA for more information about what the criteria is and next year start soliciting nominations in September. A suggestion was also made to possibly combine the Government Bar Lawyer nominee and the TCBA nominee. Michael and Laura will work on these suggestions.
 - 3.2 2020 Membership Form (Heather) – Heather shared the 2020 membership form with the board. A check box for the Diversity and Inclusion section was added under “Sections.” Patrick asked if there is a check box on the form for members to indicate gender and race? Heather said No there is not. Mark suggested maybe the Diversity and Inclusion section can put together recommendations for the form for next year. The board said the form is fine and can't be emailed to the members in January 2020. Laura suggested maybe having an FJC Liaison to help Meredith Gerhart with the Family Law section since it is a very busy section.
 - 3.3 Salvation Army's Adopt-A-Family (Heather) – Heather said the last family was adopted by a law firm this afternoon.
5. **Old Business**
 - 4.1 Rules Committee update (Michael) – Laura emailed Pam Hartman-Beyer to let her know that Michael Young would be representing the bar association at Rules Committee meetings in the future. Pam Hartman-Beyer told Laura she will email Michael when they start in January.
 - 4.2 Website contractors update (Laura & Heather) - Heather contacted JWB Consulting for a quote to host the TCBA website and do upgrades as needed. Laura asked Heather to send her the quote from Jill Carter, our current website host. Table this to next month's meeting.
6. **Treasurer's Report** (Heidi Raedel Magaro) – November 2019 Financial Report Mark moved to approve, seconded by Bill. The motion carried without objections.
7. **Monthly Luncheon Update** (Jim Laukkonen)- Jim asked Mark if he talked to his colleagues about presenting the history of the TCBA at a CLE? Mark said he spoke to Gerry Alexander and Steve Bean, but has not spoken to Fred Gentry yet. Gerry Alexander and Steve Bean said they would like

to do the presentation. Anne Guinn is the speaker for the January CLE. Soon to be Chief Justice Stephens will be the speaker for the February CLE. Judge McPhee will be the speaker for the March CLE. The History panel with attorneys from Mark's office will be the CLE in April. Joe Lynch and Alan Swanson said they would like to be on the panel of speakers for the History CLE as well. A suggestion was made to video tape the April History CLE. Bill will check with a videographer about the cost. Mark will check with the Court Reporters Office if they have a recording option available. Laura will check with TCTV.

8. **Committee Reports**

- 7.1 Bench/Bar (President) – The Bench Bar meeting in November went well. The new presiding judge was announced which will be Judge Erik Price. Trevor did a nice job discussing the new courthouse committee. Patrick and Judge Murphy talked about an opportunity to volunteer to do a Pro Bono event on one day to have financial debt relieved. Patrick will share more information when it gets closer. The date for the Pro Bono event will be May 13th. Amy Perlman will be the TCBA Liaison to help with this. Heather will add this to the agenda for next meeting under updates. Include this in the March Legal Brief.
- 7.2 CLE (Bill, Megan, Heidi, Patrick, Laura, Victoria, Geoff, Amy) – Bill has nothing to report. Patrick said he is shooting for the 27th or 28th of February for the Trial CLE Part IV. Patrick will email Heather the exact date.
- 7.3 Newsletter (Heather) – Who will write “In Re” article – Michael volunteered to organize the “In Re” article for the January Legal Brief.
- 7.4 New Courthouse (Marie Doctor & Trevor Zandell) – Trevor shared the Vote Yes Committee is experiencing good positive momentum. Commissioners Menser and Hutchings and Mayor Selby have gotten more active with the committee since the election took place. The committee is working on fundraising right now. They have added more people to the committee including three non-lawyers. They hired Molly Sullivan as the campaign manager. The Campaign Kick-off event is on January 9, 2020 at Well 80 from 5:00 -7:00 p.m. RSVP to Trevor for the event. Trevor will send an email to Heather to send out to the members.

9. **Section Reports**

- 8.1 Family Law (Meredith Gerhart) - Our next Family Law Section Meeting is on Tuesday, December 10th, and we will not have a formal agenda, but are instead doing our annual holiday potluck. At the November Family Law Section Meeting, we discussed the proposed changes to the local court rules, and how the proposed changes would impact the setting of trial dates and settlement conference dates. We discussed the joint pretrial reports that we will have to prepare in the near future (as opposed to having a court appearance for pretrial conferences). We also discussed the requirement to provide Family Law Handbooks to petitioners who file for divorce, and also to respondents who file a response to the petitions. RCW 2.56.180 allows the County to seek reimbursement on an annual basis for the costs associated with providing these handbooks to the parties. This apparently had not been happening, and some attorneys had been providing the handbooks to individuals they represent. I circulated copies of the handbooks to the Family Law Section in PDF format, and the Clerk's Office has confirmed hard copies are now available at the counter. We discussed the new(er) requirement that all default motions need to be noted on an appropriate calendar. Though the statute allows motions for default to be presented ex parte, and without notice (provided the respondent has not appeared nor responded), FJC is now requiring all motions for default to be set for a hearing. Self-represented parties had been required to do this for some time now, and the Court wants everyone to have to go through the same protocol. FJC hosted their National Adoption Day celebration on November 21, 2019. It was the Court's 15th annual celebration, and had the largest number of families in the history of the celebration. 9 families participated this year.

- 8.2 Pro Bono (Geoff Hulsey) – Terry Church provided the following report from TCVLS: They will have a fair amount of turnover on the TCVLS Board for the upcoming year. I will be taking the reins as President of the Board for 2020, and look forward to a great working relationship with the TCBA! We have some special newcomers joining the Board. We are very excited to have Geoff joining; I am consistently pleased and impressed by the quality of individuals who step up from both the TCBA and Government Lawyers to continue the important work of Thurston County Volunteer Legal Services. We will continue to do our best to provide quality legal representation to individuals who need it the most in our community. Highlights of the upcoming year will include our annual fundraising breakfast and volunteer appreciation summer BBQ. Looking forward to 2020!
- 8.3 Young Lawyers (Ingrid Zerpa) – We held our November YL section lunch on Wednesday, November 6 at noon at Koibito Japanese Restaurant. We had a really good turnout. We skipped the December lunch because I was out of town, but instead, I am hosting a YL section holiday happy hour at the Westside Tavern on Dec. 18.
- 8.4 Criminal Law (Larry Jefferson & Wayne Graham) - We are in the process of transitioning to Angela and Lindsey. I believe they have a plan for January. I have included them in this email. I believe we will have a DOC presentation at the end of January.
- 8.5 Real Estate, Land Use, and Environmental Law (Heather Burgess) – No report.
- 8.6 Diversity and Inclusion (Mike Martinez and Larry Jefferson) – Report from Mike: 11 persons in attendance, not all are current TCBA members

Outcomes:

- Based on the discussion on Dec. 10, Mike and Larry will draft Mission Statement and Webpage Content for group to consider at next meeting
- There is a need for data on the diversity within the TCBA membership
- Based on the discussion on Dec. 10, Mike and Larry will present potential Section goals for the coming year for group to consider at next meeting (see list, below).

Next Meeting: January 8th, 2020 at Equal Latin Restaurant in downtown Olympia, 12 noon
Report from Larry: We had a great first meeting for the Diversity and Inclusion Section. It was very well attended. I believe we had 11-12 people. We have a Supreme Court Justice and Superior Court Judge come to the meeting as well. We discussed the potential mission statement and goals for 2020. It was particularly moving to hear the reasons that people attended the meeting. A few of those reasons are as follows:

Create an open and positive environment for all people that have been marginalized;
To help with recruiting and retaining a diverse group of people to the State Capital;
Confront racism head on;

Build a social environment to building community for people of the global majority;

Re ready for difficult conversations when people with diverse ideas speak. Not just say you want diversity without doing the difficult work of actually doing it.

We also came up with a list of objectives for the year:

1. Do a CLE
2. Social Gatherings – Lunch/Dinner – Local Restaurants
3. Reception for Raquel Montoya-Lewis first Native American to Washington Supreme Court
4. Participate in Color of Justice Program in March/April
5. Mentoring Programs and opportunities
6. WWL Partnership
7. Provide review/feedback to Agencies/Court for Forms/Procedures
8. Awards – Diversity and Inclusion
9. Outreach to Schools/Colleges/Law students/Community

Next Meeting Scheduled for 12 Noon on January 8th, 2020 at Equal Latin Restaurant.

Laura wondered if Mike and Larry want to submit an article for the January Legal Brief. Heather will reach out to Mike and Larry. Patrick attended the meeting and thought it went well. Justice Gonzalez attended the meeting too. Laura shared there is a summit in January in Pierce County.

10. **Additions to agenda**

10.1 ID Badges: Jim said that Pierce County got their ID badges through the Court Security and the County Executive. Patrick will talk to the Thurston County Executive.

11. **Announcements**

12. **Date/location of next meeting:** Amy Perlman's office on January 8, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

13. **Adjourn** 6:29 p.m.