

THURSTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 14, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.
hosted by Bill Pope and Melissa Goldmann at John Kesler's Office

Members Present: Michael Young, Wayne Graham, Marie Doctor, Matt Huot, Melissa Goldmann, Bill Pope, John Kesler III, and Brandon Koennig.

Members Absent: Jerry Gray, Geoff Hulsey, Joe Scuderi, and Angela Colaiuta.

Others Present: Heather Ligtenberg

1. **Call to order** 5:32 p.m.
2. **Approval of Minutes of November 9, 2022, Board Meeting** – Melissa has one change to the minutes; at the top of the second page remove the word “District” after Judge Buckley. Bill moved to approve the minutes with the change that Melissa said, seconded by Wayne. The motion carried without objections.
3. **New Business**
 - 3.1 Gmail/Email (Heather) – Heather explained there has been an issue with the TCBA emails reaching all of the members. Jill Carter, our IT person, said there is an option to fix the issue, but it will cost \$6/month. Melissa moved to approve to pay \$6/month to ensure the emails get to all members and the board will revisit whether it's worth it in a few months, seconded by Matt. The motion carried without objections.
 - 3.2 Local Hero Nominations (Michael) – A discussion took place. Marie motioned to nominate Jonathan Sprouffske for the Local Hero Award and is encouraging Government Lawyer Bar Association to nominate Patrick O'Connor, seconded by Wayne. The motion carried without objections.
4. **Old Business**
 - 4.1 Judge Dixon Send Off Party Update (Wayne) – Wayne shared that he's still working on getting dates for the event. Heather said the portrait may not be ready by the end of December, so we may not be able to have an event before Judge Dixon retires.
 - 4.2 2023 Judicial Evaluation Survey (Michael, Jerry, Wayne) – They have not met yet, but will get a meeting on the calendar. The date that the evaluation is sent to the members is March 1st. Heather will send last survey that was done to the committee.
5. **Treasurer's Report** (John) – October 2022 & November 2022 Financial Report – John shared that the October 2022 Balance Sheet says 2021. Heather will re-do the October 2022 report. Based on the November report, due to the holiday lunch event, we have more income this month, but the check was just sent to the Olympia Country Club to pay for the holiday lunch. Wayne said the holiday lunch was a great event, a great turnout, and the venue was decorated very nicely. The October, November and December 2022 financial report will be discussed/approved at the next meeting in January 2023.
6. **Monthly Luncheon Update** (Wayne) – Wayne shared that the December CLE went well. He was the speaker and shared information about Innovative Justice. Terry Church will be the speaker in January with a CLE on Personal Injury. We will have a CLE in May. Larry Jefferson will be a speaker in February. Judge Buckley will present on changes in District Court. There will be a Diversity & Inclusion CLE and Judge Glasgow has also offered to present. Wayne will reach out to

Terry Church to get the CLE information tomorrow.

7. Committee Reports

- 7.1 Bench/Bar (President) – Michael will reach out to Kristen to set up the spring meeting date.
- 7.2 CLE (Bill, Brandon, Geoff, Matt, Angela) – Bill reached out to the committee, but hasn't heard from anyone on the committee. He will reach out again.
- 7.3 Rules Committee (Marie) – Nothing to report yet. They will meet the first of the year.
- 7.4 Communicating with the Court about court administration (John, Patrick, Geoff, Michael, Melissa, Lindsey Trakel, Marie) – John said the last meeting was the Bench Bar meeting. We will meet again in February. Michael suggested meeting once a quarter. John will email Judge Wilson and set up a meeting date.
- 7.5 Annual Meeting Planning Committee (Heather, Matt, Brandon, John) – Nothing to report.
- 7.6 Law Day Speech Contest (Marie, Geoff, Melissa) – Marie said that Geoff will send her past information. Heather will send it to the committee.
- 7.7 Social Events Committee (Brandon (Chair), Heather, Geoff, Joe, Wayne) – Brandon said the bowling alley contacted him and said they don't have as much availability now. There are first come first serve lanes available, but we can't prepay anymore. Brandon suggests that we set a date/time and just go. Another opportunity is to volunteer at the local food banks who really need volunteers. He suggests setting up a date/time or collect food. Brandon also suggested organizing a happy hour event. Well 80 is a good venue. Michael suggested picking a date for a Thursday happy hour event.
- 7.8 How to Increase Membership Committee (Matt & Michael) – Matt is working on a mini-CLE on the Importance of Being Involved in Your Local Bar Associations. He is getting a panel together to present. This CLE will hopefully encourage more Attorney General's to join the TCBA.
- 7.9 Newsletter & Marketing (Heather & Geoff) – Heather said articles and ads are due by December 21st. The Legal Brief will be emailed to the members by mid-January.

8. Section Reports

- 8.1 Family Law (Meredith Gerhart) – No report, but Melissa shared that there was no meeting in December.
- 8.2 Pro Bono (Joe Scuderi) – Michael reported that Rachael Langen Lundmark, the Executive Director at TCVLS, is retiring and they are in the process of finding a replacement.
- 8.3 Young Lawyers (Devin Kohr) – John said Devin tried to schedule some lunches, but some Attorney General's said they can't come during the lunch hour so she scheduled some happy hours and no one showed up. John said Devin was also having a hard time finding someone to complete the Young Lawyer Spotlight for the next Legal Brief. Wayne said he will find someone to do the Young Lawyer Spotlight. Heather will send Wayne the Young Lawyer Spotlight questions.
- 8.4 Criminal Law (Olivia Zhou & Jenna Storm Norden) – Wayne shared that they are attempting to coordinate a CLE with DOC regarding Criminal Supervision.
- 8.5 Real Estate, Land Use, and Environmental Law (Trevor Zandell) – I am working on securing a venue for our next section meeting, which I hope to hold in April. Once a venue is secured, I plan to find a speaker and schedule the meeting. My hope is that we will be able to hold a meeting with a program and speaker, but also have time to discuss the section generally and what the members would like to do. From there, my goal will be to hold regular section meetings.
- 8.6 Diversity and Inclusion (Zelena Jones & Jessica Shen) – For the month of November, the recruitment process for the two new co-chairs was finalized. Ivy Rose Kramer and Kelsey Gasseling are the new co-chairs for 2023. Gasseling currently works at Thurston County Public Defense and Kramer works at the Thurston County Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

These individuals bring their creativity, approachability, positivity, and their own unique diverse personal backgrounds to this role. For the meeting in November, members had the option to read Decolonizing Wealth - the full book - and/or related articles and discussed the impact of the legacy of colonization to philanthropic endeavors and how that legacy is impacting the effectiveness of such endeavors. For the month of December, we will have our first in-person meeting in over two years plus a holiday gathering/movie night. We are watching the movie, "Blindspotting" (2018). Plus, we are offering pizza plus group members can opt to provide food to share.

9. **Additions to agenda**

- 9.1 Wayne said that the section CLEs are also doing CLEs which we're competing against. Wayne talked to Keith Blanford in Kittitas County who is their Board President about coming and doing a CLE on Truth and Bail. Wayne said Pierce County offers free CLEs to their members and the way they make their money is they charge for badges to get into the courthouses. Wayne would like to start the conversation about badges again. Matt likes the idea of looking at this again. Michael said he brought it up at his initial meeting with Judge Wilson. Wayne said if we can offer these badges to our members, then the TCBA could offer free CLEs as well. Brandon will reach out to Megan Card about this topic and see where she left off with it. Wayne said it would be a good revenue stream. Wayne, Brandon, and Matt volunteered to be on the committee. This topic will be added to the agenda for upcoming meetings.
- 9.2 Veterans/Wills – Matt said he will send out an email to see if anyone is interested in taking referrals for Veterans/Wills.
- 9.3 Desk of Judge Thomas Burke – John said there didn't seem to be much interest in this and assumes the desk is sold by now.

10. **Announcements**

- 10.1 Brandon shared that they are adding another attorney at his office.

11. **Date/location of next meeting:** January 11, 2023, hosted by Geoff & Michael at John Kesler's office

12. **Adjourn** 6:35 p.m.