

THURSTON COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 13, 2023, at 5:30 p.m.
hosted by Bill Pope and Melissa Goldmann at John Kesler's Office

Members Present: Wayne Graham, Marie Docter, Bill Pope, Jerry Gray, Michael Young, Angela Colaiuta, Brandon Koenig, and Melissa Goldmann.

Members Absent: Matt Huot, John Kesler III, Rosemary Fitzgerald, and Joe Scuderi.
Others Present: Heather Ligtenberg

1. **Call to order** 5:40 p.m.
2. **Approval of Minutes of May 10, 2023, Board Meeting** - Bill moved to approve the minutes with the two corrections that Marie emailed about, seconded by Brandon. The motion carried without objections.
3. **New Business**
 - 3.1 Annual Meeting & Dinner Venue for 2024 (Heather) – Heather asked if we want to reserve a date in May 2024 for the annual meeting and dinner or if we want to go to a different venue. A discussion took place. Heather will contact Indian Summer and find out what the cost would be to host an even there and she will contact the Olympia Golf & Country Club for availability in May 2024 and pencil in a date if anything is available. Michael suggested we ask for donations from law firms to help with the cost of the tickets earlier this year.
 - 3.2 United Way Day of Caring (Heather) – Heather shared the 2023 United Way Day of Caring event is on September 29 from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Marie and Jerry have volunteered to represent the board at this event. Heather said right now we have seven volunteers from the TCBA.
 - 3.3 WSBA Local Hero Award (Heather) – Heather gave an update on 2023 Local Hero Award & soliciting for 2024 nominations, which is that the WSBA still has not confirmed a date to honor the TCBA nominee, Jonathan Sprouffske. A discussion took place. Heather will add Wayne Graham and Nam Nguyen to future emails to the WSBA.
 - 3.4 TCBA Board of Directors Board Retreat (Heather) – Heather shared that she will be on vacation from November 7-18, so is wondering if the annual TCBA Board Retreat could take place in either late October or the first weekend in November this year? Heather will send a Doodle Poll to the board to find a date that works for the majority. The board decided they do not want to use a facilitator this year. Heather will ask John if we can hold the meeting at his office. If John's office is not available, Jerry said he can probably host at his office.
 - 3.5 Heather on vacation from November 7-18 – Heather said she will be on vacation for the November board meeting, but asked Melissa if she can take the minutes at the November 8 board meeting? Melissa said she will take the minutes.
 - 3.6 Salvation Army Adopt-A-Family program (Heather) – Heather asked if the TCBA wants to participate in the Salvation Army's Adopt-A-Family program again this year. The board said yes, we want to do this again this year. Jerry volunteered to be the Chair again this year.
4. **Old Business**
 - 4.1 Summer BBQ update (Heather) – Wayne said this has been the best attended BBQ we've had in a long time and the location and weather were great. A discussion took place about the cost of having the event at the Harbor House and a decision was made to have the annual BBQ at Tumwater Historical Park next year since the cost is a lot cheaper.

5. **Treasurer's Report** (Brandon) – May, June, July, August 2023 Financial Reports – Brandon shared a financial report for each month, May, June, July, and August 2023. Michael moved to approve the reports, seconded by Jerry. The motion carried without objections.
6. **Monthly Luncheon Update** (John) – Wayne shared that the next CLE is on September 22. Wayne shared that his boss, Jon Tunheim, is sponsoring eight seats at this CLE. Wayne shared that John has all the CLEs scheduled for fall already.
7. **Committee Reports**
 - 7.1 Bench/Bar (President) – Wayne will talk to Judge Wilson about setting up a date.
 - 7.2 CLE (Bill, Brandon, Matt, Wayne, Angela) – Melissa shared that Pat and Jennifer are willing to do an Evidence CLE. Wayne said Judge Glasgow might be interested in presenting on a panel with Judge Zipp and maybe Justice Gonzalez. A discussion took place about offering a discounted rate for attorneys that have practiced under two to four years. This will be tabled until a CLE has been organized.
 - 7.3 Rules Committee (Marie) - LCR 56(c)(1) –Marie shared that Gary Preble went in front of the Court of Appeals on MSJ and the court commented on the LCR 56(c)(1) rule. Marie will email everyone with the information and will discuss it at the October meeting.
 - 7.4 Communicating with the Court about court administration (John, Patrick, Melissa, Brandon, Marie) – No report.
 - 7.5 Social Events Committee (Brandon (Chair), Heather, Joe, Wayne) – Brandon said he is going to revitalize the camaraderie between our members and organize a fun social event. He thinks Trivia would be fun. Michael said Well 80 has a Trivia night on Tuesday nights. Brandon said Headless Mumby and Buzz's Tavern have Trivia nights too. Brandon will organize a team for trivia at Well 80.
 - 7.6 How to Increase Membership Committee (Matt & Michael) – Michael said they have not met. Michael said he likes the discounted rate for young lawyers at CLEs idea and maybe we can do that for the monthly CLE luncheons as well.
 - 7.7 Newsletter & Marketing (Heather) – “In Re” Spotlight – Michael volunteered to find an attorney to complete the “In Re” for the November Legal Brief. Wayne said he noticed a lot of advertising in the September Legal Brief this month.
 - 7.8 Courthouse Badges (Wayne, Brandon, Matt) – Wayne said Judge Wilson has tabled this for now, but she has not closed the door on it.
 - 7.9 Judicial Evaluation Survey & Bylaw Committee (Michael, Jerry, Wayne, Joe, Angela, Chris Meserve) – Angela said to combine 7.9 and 7.10. Wayne said Judge Glasgow talked to him about the judicial evaluation survey. Michael said the committee will get together to discuss the Bylaw changes related to the judicial evaluation survey and any other changes in the Bylaws if needed.
 - 7.10 Bylaws Committee (Angela, Joe, Michael) – See 7.9.
8. **Section Reports**
 - 8.1 Family Law (Meredith Gerhart) – May 2023: We had a very short meeting. The biggest topic of conversation was the upcoming Family Law Midyear Conference towards the end of July 2023. June 2023: This was one of our livelier meetings. We had great participation from section members. We discussed Clerk's Minutes and how to correct perceived errors with the minutes. We then spent the majority of the time discussing GAL issues, specifically the ethical considerations and legality of GALs asking represented parties to sign fee agreements. July 2023: No meeting, but we had an informal gathering of section members and judicial officers on Thursday, July 20, 2023. August 2023: We had a very short meeting where everyone was uncharacteristically quiet. We spent a few minutes discussing two new pieces of legislation. SB 5205 and SB 5420, which will have significant and profound impact on

family law practitioners. Our legislative liaison encouraged us to send feedback on the anticipated impact on family law practice.

- 8.2 Pro Bono (Joe Scuderi) – No report.
- 8.3 Young Lawyers (Devin Kohr) – Devin is going on maternity leave in November 2023. Peter Lindgren from her office would like to be chair in her absence and then be co-chairs upon her return from maternity leave. The TCBA Board of Directors appointed Peter Lindgren to be the interim Chair and upon Devin Kohr’s return from maternity leave, Devin and Peter will be co-chairs.
- 8.4 Criminal Law (Olivia Zhou & Diana Anderson) – The TCB Board of Directors appointed Diana Anderson as the new co-chair.
- 8.5 Real Estate, Land Use, and Environmental Law (Trevor Zandell) – I am working on setting up a CLE for the fall meeting of the RELUEL section. I am meeting with a title examiner next week with the hopes of putting on a CLE related to title issues. I am also reaching out to various people in code enforcement about a possible CLE on that process. My goal is to have the CLE scheduled prior to the next TCBA board meeting.
- 8.6 Diversity and Inclusion (Ivy Rose-Kramer & Kelsey Gasseling) – No report.

9. **Additions to agenda**

10. **Announcements**

- 10.1 Brandon shared that Chelsea Raines has joined his office.
- 10.2 Heather shared that the Swearing-in Ceremony is on September 29 at 4:00 p.m. Heather will check with Devin if there will be a happy hour after the ceremony.

11. **Date/location of next meeting:** October 11, 2023, hosted by Rosemary & Michael at John’s office.

12. **Adjourn** 7:16 p.m.