

MINUTES OF THE TACOMA-PIERCE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION TRUSTEES MEETING

Tuesday, November 18, 2014

Tacoma Harvester, 29 North Tacoma Avenue

7:15 a.m.

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Dawn Farina, once a quorum was present.

PRESENT

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| President: | Dawn Farina |
| Vice President : | John R. Christensen |
| Secretary-Treasurer: | Matthew H. Thomas |
| Immediate Past President: | Stephanie L. Bloomfield |
| Trustee: | Dwayne L. Christopher |
| Trustee: | Heidi Wachter |
| Trustee: | Wendy E. Zicht |
| Trustee: | Clay Selby |
| Trustee: | T. Diane Clarkson |
| Superior Court Judicial Liaison: | Judge Stephanie Arend |
| Young Lawyers Section President: | Russell A. Knight |
| Criminal Law Section: | Maureen Goodman |
| WSBA Liaison/Governor: | Keith Black |
| Pierce County Superior Court Commissioner: | Commissioner Diana L. Kiesel |
| Family Law Section: | Sophia Palmer |
| WA Women Lawyers Liaison: | Brittany Mahugh |
| Collaborative Law Liaison: | Lynn Johnson |
| Executive Director: | Kit Kasner |
| Tacoma Law Foundation President: | Valarie Zeeck |
| Tacoma Law Foundation Project Executive: | Al Doeve |

ABSENT

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| Trustee: | Steven O. Merrival |
| Pierce County Superior Court Liaison: | Judge Ronald Culpepper |
| District Court Liaison: | Presiding Judge Margaret Vail Ross |
| Tacoma Municipal Court Judicial Liaison: | Presiding Judge Elizabeth E. Verhey |
| Pierce County Minority Bar Liaison: | Sarah L. Lee |

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER MINUTES

The Board voted to approve the November 2014 minutes.

REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS

President's Report – Dawn Farina

- a) Community Service Awards: Dawn announced that the TPCBA has received nominations for the Community Service Awards. The awards will be presented at the Lincoln Day Banquet.
- b) Website: Dawn gave an update on the new web site. We met with Sitecrafting and the web site is progressing nicely. Vice President John Christensen added that the new web site will bring us into the 21st Century.
- c) Budget for 2015: Dawn mentioned that the executive board would be meeting to write the budget for 2015. Dawn asked board members for input if they have any budget needs.
- d) Nominating Committee: Dawn also mentioned that the nominating committee, consisting of Dawn, John Christenson, Dwayne Christopher, Russell Knight, and Heidi Ann Wachter will meet to discuss nominations for the election of the new 2015 Board members.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report– Matthew H. Thomas

Matt reported that as of as of October 31st of this year, the TPCBA had spent \$440,391.46 and had revenues of \$402,129.82. Matt mentioned that the TPCBA will reimburse \$433.99 to Martin Duenhoelter for his out of pocket costs for Lawyerpalooza, which include the costs of repairs to a tractor that was broken during preparations for the event. Matt discussed a new voluntary \$10 contribution option on the TPCBA bar membership renewal form, so members who wish, may donate to Lawyerpalooza. The expenditures for 2014 Lawyerpalooza as of October 31, were \$7,783.95 and the revenues were \$210.

NEW BUSINESS AND ACTION ITEMS

University of WA School of Law at UWT – Valarie Zeeck and Al Doeve

Valarie Zeeck and Al Doeve discussed starting a University of Washington Tacoma (UWT) School of Law. Valarie said the UWT law school will revitalize the community. Valarie noted that the Dean of the UW School of Law supports establishing a law school branch in Tacoma. Valarie said the school will first offer a night program for 30 students. Al Doeve reported that other South Sound Bar Associations have made a pledge to support the branch law school. Stephanie Bloomfield spoke in favor of the law school, indicating that there was a need for a public law school option for those who could not attend the UW in Seattle. Stephanie said that her firm had made a pledge and that the legislature supports the project. Trustee Heidi Wachter then made a motion for the TPCBA to pledge \$3,000 each year for the next three years (total of \$9000 over the period of 2015-17). General discussion followed. The motion passed. Family Law Section Liaison Sophia Palmer abstained from voting, noting that family law practitioners want more time to consider the proposal in order to give constructive feedback.

REPORTS OF THE LIAISONS/COMMITTEES/SECTIONS

WSBA BOG Liaison Report - Keith Black

Keith reported that he had just attended the WSBA Board of Governors' November meeting. Vern Harkins is leading the Governance Task Force discussion; there is an article in the WSBA NW Lawyer magazine on the task force. Keith reported that the Board of Governors (BOG) has approved the proposed amendment to eliminate the live CLE requirement. The BOG supports broadening the scope of CLEs to include topics such as wellness. Keith said these changes are not a "done deal" and are still being reviewed.

Judicial Liaison Superior Court – Judge Stephanie Arend

Judge Arend reported that the swearing-in ceremony for Gretchen Leanderson would be held December 4 at 4:00 p.m. in room 100. Judge Leanderson will start on December 1, taking over Department 15's calendar. Judge Arend also announced that Judge McCarthy's retirement party was scheduled for the coming Friday, November 21, at 4:30 p.m. at the Swiss. Judge Arend reported that the Court is doing a history project in which the judges will be interviewed about their pathways to the bench and their reflections on Due Process.

Young Lawyers Section – Russell Knight

Russell reported that the Judicial Skit Night is scheduled for December 4. Russell also announced that the Young Lawyers have pledged \$1000 to the UWT law school fund.

Family Law Section – Sophia Palmer

Sophia reported that the military CLE was being postponed until March due to scheduling difficulties.

Collaborative Law – Lynn Johnson

Lynn reported that the International Collaboration Law Conference in Vancouver, B.C. was inspiring. Lynn said they plan to use the materials to do trainings here.

Mentorship Committee – Wendy Zicht

Wendy reported that her in-box has been overwhelmed with emails from attorneys volunteering to be mentors. The committee will meet to match these attorneys with young lawyers.

Washington Women Lawyers – Brittany Mahugh

Brittany announced that there would be a meeting on November 19 and the holiday party would be December 9 at Blake Kremer's house.

ADJOURNED

Following the committee reports, the meeting was adjourned.