

MINUTES OF THE TACOMA-PIERCE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION TRUSTEES MEETING

Tuesday, April 21, 2015

Harvester Restaurant 29 N Tacoma Ave, Tacoma WA 98403

7:15 A.M.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

President John Christensen called the meeting to order

**PRESENT**

President:	John Christensen
Secretary/Treasurer:	Kenneth Blanford
Immediate Past President:	Dawn Farina
Trustee:	Lindsay Camandona
Trustee:	Diane Clarkson
Trustee:	Dwayne Christopher
Trustee:	James McCormick
Trustee:	Sarah Richardson
Trustee:	Kevin Rundle
Trustee:	Wendy Zicht
Judicial Liaison:	Frank Cuthbertson
Judicial Liaison:	Margaret Ross
Judicial Liaison Commissioner:	Diana Kiesel
Criminal Law Liaison:	Maureen Goodman
WA Woman Lawyers Liaison:	Brittany Mahugh
WSBA Liaison 6 <sup>th</sup> District:	Keith Black
Collaborative Law Liaison:	Lynn Johnson
VLS Liaison:	Jason Ruyf
Executive Director:	Kit Kasner

**ABSENT**

Vice President:	Matthew Thomas
Trustee:	Sophia Palmer
Judicial Liaison:	Stephanie Arend
Judicial Liaison:	Ronald Culpepper
Judicial Liaison:	Elizabeth Verhey
Criminal Law Liaison:	Michael Schwartz
PC Minority Bar Liaison:	Sarah Lee

**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE MARCH MINUTES**

Minutes from last meeting were approved.

**REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS**

**President's Report – John Christensen**

Swearing in ceremony (for new attorneys) today in room 100 in the County City Building at 4:00 PM. Everyone is invited. Professor John Weaver is here from Seattle University. Professor Weaver is going to be a liaison from the Law School to the Tacoma Pierce County Bar Association.

Coming up in the near future: Annual Law Luncheon, Pierce County Women's Lawyer Spring Cleaning Clothing Drive, Golf Tournament, and Transitioning Attorney CLE.

**Vice-President's Report— Matthew H. Thomas**

No Vice-President report for this month.

**Secretary-Treasurer's Report– Kenneth W. Blanford**

The Financial Report given.

**Old Business**

Security badges at the courthouse: There was a new incident involving bypassing security with a client's backpack. That is a privilege that can be taken away very quickly. There was no contraband found but it was the concept that was concerning. The Court House ID agreement was provided in the materials.

**New Business**

WSBA leadership is present: Paula Littlewood (Executive Director), Anthony Gipe (Current President), Patrick Palace (Past President), and William Hyslop (President Elect).

President Anthony Gipe addressed the group. The State Bar is 125 years old, and now has 36,000 members. The Bar would like to focus on what we should look like as an organization for the next hundred years. Some things the Bar is considering are whether to allow non-attorneys to sit on the board of governor's, and escalating costs of civil litigation. The Bar has a task force that should give its recommendations by July. The Supreme Court has passed rules removing the live CLE credit requirement. Also attorneys will be able to get CLE credit for non black letter law topics, up to half the credits can be in these non black letter law issues. Permissible CLEs include things that help lawyers thrive as an attorney and a person. No major local bar association was in support of the removal of the live CLE credit requirements.

Judicial surveys will continue to be a local issue as opposed to a State wide (WSBA) governed issue. The issue of confidentiality is a key issue.

Concerns were expressed by some members about communication between the bar association and the individuals members. A digest is sent out once a week to update members. There is a distinction between official emails and unofficial emails. You can opt in on the WSBA website (personal portal). The bar has Facebook, website, twitter, and a blog.

**Action Items**

None

**REPORTS OF THE LIAISONS/COMMITTEES/SECTIONS**

**Trustee and Section Liaison Reports**

Reports were set over due to the Presentation of WSBA leadership reports.

## **Young Lawyers Report**

Law Day Luncheon on May 8, 2015, Garry Wallis is going to be presenting and will be in costume.

## **Other Business**

VLS is going to have a housing project for those of lesser means. This will provide services for both tenants and landlords. Judge Ross has been working to begin a pretrial service program for Felons with the Superior Court Judges.

**ADJOURNED**