

MINUTES OF THE TACOMA-PIERCE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION TRUSTEES MEETING

Tuesday, December 16, 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.

PRESENT

President:	Dawn Farina
Vice President :	John R. Christensen
Secretary-Treasurer:	Matthew H. Thomas
Immediate Past President:	Stephanie L. Bloomfield
Trustee:	Dwayne L. Christopher
Trustee:	Clay Selby
Trustee:	Heidi Wachter
Trustee:	Wendy E. Zicht
Pierce County Superior Court Judicial Liaison:	Judge Stephanie Arend
Pierce County Superior Court Liaison:	Judge Ronald Culpepper
Pierce County Superior Court Liaison:	Judge Frank Cuthbertson
Tacoma Municipal Court Judicial Liaison:	Presiding Judge Elizabeth E. Verhey
District Court Liaison:	Presiding Judge Margaret Vail Ross
Young Lawyers Section President:	Russell A. Knight
Criminal Law Section:	Maureen Goodman
Family Law Section:	Sophia Palmer
WA Women Lawyers Liaison:	Brittany Mahugh
Executive Director:	Kit Kasner

ABSENT

Trustee:	Steven O. Merrival
Pierce County Minority Bar Liaison:	Sarah L. Lee
Trustee:	T. Diane Clarkson
Collaborative Law Liaison:	Lynn Johnson
Pierce County Superior Court Commissioner:	Commissioner Diana L. Kiesel
WSBA Liaison/Governor:	Keith Black

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER MINUTES

Following an edit noted by Dawn Farina, the Board voted to approve the minutes.

REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS

President's Report – Dawn Farina

- a) **Website:** Dawn gave an update on the new web site. Dawn urged board members to send photographs of bar events by Christmas or at the latest, during the first week of January, to be posted on the web site.
- b) **Nominating Committee:** Dawn announced that the nominating committee met to discuss nominees for the upcoming Board of Trustee elections. The nominations committee consisted of Dawn, John Christensen, Heidi Wachter, Russell Knight, and Dwayne Christopher.
- c) **Year End Committee/Section Reports:** Dawn announced that the committee and section chairs would give their annual reports on January 8 at noon at Shenanigans. Dawn invited all board members to attend.

Vice-President's Report—John Christensen

John announced that Congressman Derek Kilmer will be the keynote speaker at the Lincoln Day Banquet. John also mentioned that a sponsor was still needed for the social hour. Dawn reminded everyone that there would be a group photograph of the Board of Trustees before the banquet.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report– Matthew H. Thomas

Matt presented the budget that the Executive Board was recommending for 2015. The Board voted to approve the budget.

REPORTS OF THE LIAISONS/COMMITTEES/SECTIONS

Judicial Liaison Superior Court – Judge Ronald Culpepper & Judge Frank Cuthbertson

Judge Culpepper thanked Kit Kasner for helping with Judge Felnagle's and Judge McCarthy's retirement events. Judge Culpepper announced that Judge Leanderson was starting. Judge Culpepper also announced that there was a new 18 month rotation starting, and that the rotations were projected out nine years.

Judge Culpepper introduced Judge Cuthbertson as the in-coming Presiding Judge. Judge Cuthbertson mentioned General Rule 31 on public disclosure as something which is under discussion. Judge Cuthbertson also said the new Mental Health Court was a big issue and part of the rotation. Judge Cuthbertson also gave a report on Pro Bono Night. Judge Cuthbertson complimented our Bar for doing an excellent job providing legal assistance and making donations to Volunteer Legal Service. He recognized in particular the contribution of James McCormick and the firm of Andrew Hay and Heather Swann.

Judicial Liaison Municipal Court – Judge Elizabeth Verhey

Judge Verhey announced that Drew Henke would be sworn in as Judge on January 9. Judge Verhey said that Judge Jack Emery was retiring on December 31.

Young Lawyers Section – Russell Knight

Russell reported that the Judicial Skit Night on December 4 went well and that about 80 people attended.

Family Law Section – Sophia Palmer

Sophia reported that the Family Law Section's elections would be in January and that outgoing president Kevin Rundle would begin attending the TPCBA Board meetings.

Superior Court Commission – Clay Selby

Clay reported that the commission was meeting monthly regarding judicial evaluations and that the Superior Court bench had been given a lot of feedback. Clay predicted that they should be able to tie up the project by January.

Diversity Committee – Dwayne Christopher

Dwayne announced that the Diversity Committee was planning to meet at Destiny Church on December 20 to pack up meals and deliver them to 400 families. In addition, the committee would deliver toys to children. Dwayne suggested that when the committee members go out in the community, they should wear tags so they could be readily identified as members of the TPCBA. The Board agreed that wearing tags was a good idea.

Mentorship Committee & Collaborative Law – Wendy Zicht

Wendy reported that there would be a collaborative quarterly one hour CLE on Thursday evening, December 18. There would be a holiday social as well. Wendy reported that the mentorship committee was scheduled to meet on January 20. Wendy said they had a lot of volunteers and now needed to match them up with young lawyers.

Washington Women Lawyers – Brittany Mahugh

Brittany reported that Washington Women Lawyers had a holiday party to benefit the Washington Hilltop Artists. Brittany also announced that Washington Women Lawyers are planning to have happy hours on the last Friday of each month.

ADJOURNED

Following the committee reports, the meeting was adjourned.