

MINUTES OF THE TACOMA-PIERCE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION TRUSTEES MEETING

Tuesday, May 17, 2016

Tacoma Harvester, 29 North Tacoma Avenue

7:15 a.m.

**CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by President Matthew Thomas

**PRESENT**

|  |                              |
|--|------------------------------|
| President:                               | Matthew Thomas               |
| Vice President:                          | T. Diane Clarkson            |
| Secretary-Treasurer:                     | Kenneth W. Blanford          |
| Trustee:                                 | James McCormick              |
| Trustee:                                 | Antoni H. Froehling          |
| Trustee:                                 | Heather R. Straub            |
| Trustee:                                 | Sarah E. Richardson          |
| Trustee:                                 | John R. Wilson               |
| Pierce County Superior Court Liaison:    | Judge Stephanie Arend        |
| Pierce County Superior Court Liaison:    | Judge Frank Cuthbertson      |
| Pierce County Superior Court Liaison:    | Commissioner Diana L. Kiesel |
| Volunteer Legal Services Liaison:        | Mark V. Brady                |
| Immediate Past President:                | John R. Christensen          |
| Criminal Law Section:                    | Maureen Goodman              |
| Criminal Law Section:                    | Philip Thornton              |
| Family Law Section Liaison:              | Barbara H. McInville         |
| Tacoma Municipal Court Judicial Liaison: | Judge David Ladenburg        |
| Young Lawyers Section President:         | Ryan Hogaboam                |
| Executive Director:                      | Kit Kasner                   |

**ABSENT**

|   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| WSBA Liaison, 6 <sup>th</sup> District: | Keith M. Black      |
| Collaborative Law Liaison:              | Lynn Johnson        |
| Trustee:                                | Sophia Palmer       |
| District Court Liaison:                 | Judge Margaret Ross |
| WA Women Lawyers Liaison:               | Ingrid McLeod       |

**REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS**

**President's Report – Matthew H. Thomas**

Matthew Thomas is working on a CLE regarding Federal Court. He is encouraging all bar members to attend and learn about the Federal System.

**Vice-President's Report— T. Diane Clarkson**

No Report Given.

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

Discussion of Consent Agenda.

### **Old Business**

None.

### **New Business**

None.

### **Action Items**

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

### **VLS – McCormick and Richardson**

Sarah Richardson and Jeremy McCormick completed the Tacoma marathon. DAC ran a team, and VLS ran two teams. Over \$4,000.00 was raised.

### **Judicial Liaison Superior Court – Judge Cuthbertson (Given by Commissioner Kiesel)**

The Court wants to build out the 5<sup>th</sup> floor court rooms. Court is going to ask for 2 more Court Commissioners, and are going to need to expand into those court rooms. This is an access to Justice issue having sufficient facilities to meet the needs of the public. The family Court has had success in lowering outstanding case numbers. Currently there are 659 cases pending. Traditionally, there have been 700-800 cases pending.

### **Judicial Liaison District Court – Judge Ross**

None.

### **Judicial Liaison Municipal Court – Judge Ladenburg**

Judge Ladenburg took over as presiding judge in Tacoma Municipal Court in January of 2016. Judge Ladenburg will focus on moving to a paperless environment for the Municipal Court. The Municipal Court has been touring other paperless courts. It appears that the investment in going paperless will be quickly recovered by the increase of efficiency.

### **Trustee and Section Liaison Reports**

#### **Young Lawyers Section – Ryan Hogaboam**

The spring swearing in ceremony was a success. The current focus is to try and integrate

newly admitted bar members with the local bar and the Young Lawyers. Law week Liberty Bell awards were given out. The theme was “Miranda, More than Words”. A social event is in the works for late June.

**WSBA Liaison, 6<sup>th</sup> District: Keith M. Black**

None.

**Family Law Section – Barbara H. McInville**

Last year, cribs were purchased for low income families. A vote was passed to donate more cribs this year. Work is still underway in regards to the page limit of motions. (local rule limits pages, though this is not enforced). Plain language forms scheduled for May 1, 2016 have been pushed back. No new date has been provided.

**Criminal Law Section –Maureen Goodman**

Kit has sent out an email with the schedule for OH’s and pretrial conferences. Scheduling procedures have changed in Superior Court. Plea paperwork must be filed out prior to setting a plea date.

**Collaborative Law – Lynn Johnson**

None.

**Other Reports**

**Washington Women Lawyers – Ingrid McLeod**

Spring Clean Clothing Drive @ Stink 5/24/16 5:00PM Please consider donating any kind of clothing. Men are encouraged to attend the event.

**Minority Bar Association – Joseph Evan (given by T. Diane Clarkson).**

Event has been pushed back to June 24, 2016, coordinating with Urban League for anti-gang program. Meeting on Thursday to nail down the location. Joseph Evans is going to meet with the State Minority bar and set up a social.

**Volunteer Legal Services – Mark V. Brady**

Run for equal justice was a great success. Discussing with DAC to try and encourage additional participation in VLS.

**Bar Convention – John R. Christensen**

Sponsorships for convention are in place. CLE’s are being confirmed. Expect to start seeing some advertising in the Bar News.

**Guardianship Committee - John Wilson**

Guardianship Committee: about a dozen present. Priorities are as follows 1) adding a guardianship clinic to VLS 2) adding a guardianship coordinator at the Courthouse. Next meeting is going to be at the end of the month, they are going to have a CLE. The following month they are inviting a legislator to come to their meeting to discuss guardianship issues. They are working on their Fall CLE.

John is putting together a survey for the bar membership to determine what members want. He shared an updated list of questions sent out three years ago. John is looking for TPCBA to review and give forward feedback directly to him. He'd like this to go out in the next few weeks.

**Other Business**

None.

**ADJOURNED**