

MINUTES OF THE TACOMA-PIERCE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION TRUSTEES MEETING
Tuesday, January 17, 2017
Harvester Restaurant
7:15 am

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Matthew Thomas.

PRESENT

President:	Matthew Thomas
Vice President:	T. Diane Clarkson
Trustee:	Sarah E. Richardson
Trustee:	John R. Wilson
Criminal Law Section:	Maureen Goodman
Pierce County Superior Court Liaison:	Presiding Judge Elizabeth Martin
Pierce County Superior Court Liaison:	Presiding Commissioner Mark Gelman
Volunteer Legal Services Liaison:	Mark V. Brady
WA Women Lawyers Liaison:	Jennifer Andrews
Young Lawyers Section President:	Kelley Kavanagh
Law School Liaison:	Professor John Weaver
Executive Director:	Kit Kasner

ABSENT

Immediate Past President:	John R. Christensen
Secretary-Treasurer:	Kenneth W. Blanford
Trustee:	Antoni H. Froehling
Trustee:	James McCormick
Trustee:	Sophia Palmer
Trustee:	Heather R. Straub
Pierce County Superior Court Liaison:	Commissioner Diana L. Kiesel
Pierce County District Court Liaison:	Presiding Judge Judy Jasprica
Tacoma Municipal Court Judicial Liaison:	Judge David Ladenburg
WSBA Liaison, 6 th District:	Keith M. Black

REPORTS OF THE OFFICERS

President's Report – Matthew H. Thomas

Matt announced the candidates running for the 2017-18 Board of Trustees:

Vice President: Andrea McNeely and Steve Merrival

Secretary-Treasurer: Sarah Richardson, unopposed

Trustees: Nicholas Andrews, Lindsay Camandona, Bruce Clark, Andrew Hay, Meridee Mathews, Tracey Munger and Amanda Searle

Ballots will be emailed to the membership following the meeting.

Matt thanked all for attending the meeting and serving on the board. He thanked John Wilson for his outstanding work on the membership survey which can be viewed on the TPCBA website.

REPORTS OF THE LIAISONS

Superior Court Judicial Liaison Report – Presiding Judge Elizabeth Martin

Judge Martin reported it was a momentous day for Superior Court last week as they swore in four new Superior Court Judges. Judges Kirkendoll, Ashcraft, Speir and Blinn will be up and running following their attendance at the Judicial College.

Judge Martin discussed the 2017 rotation changes - Remann Hall: Judge Orlando and Judge Costello; Family Court: Judge Schwartz and Judge van Doorninck; Civil Panel: Judge Nevin, Judge Whitener, Judge Nelson, Judge Serko and Judge Rumbaugh; CDPJ: Judge Arend; Drug Court: Judge Sorensen; SAU: Judge Johnson and Judge Leanderson.

Judge Martin announced that Commissioner Dicke will be retiring and two new commissioners have been hired: Barbara McInville and Sabrina Ahrens. Next month she will plan to discuss Rule issues.

Presiding Commissioner Mark Gelman reported they are waiting on confirming a party for Commissioner Dicke. TPCBA agreed to send out an email announcement to the membership.

Family Law Section Report - Terri Farmer

Terri Farmer, Family Law Section Immediate Past President and new liaison to the TPCBA Board, announced that Amanda Cook is the new incoming Family Law President. There are two open positions for trustee. The Family Law Section meets on a regular basis on the 3rd Wednesday each month at noon. She would like Commissioners Services to have a forum, with practice tips that will make things easier for everyone.

Criminal Law Section – Maureen Goodman

Maureen reported that Matthew McGowan will take over the Criminal Law Section. Matt thanked Maureen for being an active trustee member and Criminal Law Co-Chair.

Volunteer Legal Services – Mark Brady

Mark reported the 2016 VLS numbers were the following:

Individual legal advice sessions:	4,277 (up 1,468 from 2015)
Volunteer attorneys participating:	221 (up 136 from 2015)
Pro bono hours (attorney and paralegal):	4,843 (up 2,740 from 2015)
Extensive service and full representation:	503 (up 308 from 2015)
Veterans and active duty military assisted:	780 (up 71 from 2015)

Chris Maharry is taking over the VLS Committee chair position. He also reported the AG's office is opening a Family Law Clinic. He said VLS secured additional funding sources so 2017 is

pretty stable for them. Also the WA Web Lawyer is growing and they may transfer it to the ABA website.

Minority Bar Association – Mark Brady

Mark reported 2016 was a rebuilding for the Tacoma-Pierce County Bar Minority Bar Association.

The Minority Bar Association brought middle school students from various area schools for a day of learning and law. They were fortunate to have the full cooperation of the school district as well as several judges and many individual attorneys in order to educate the students on the legal system.

They are anticipating a larger turn out in 2017 with the possibility of doing the program twice a year.

2016 has laid the foundation for an increase in membership through their various programs and events. The Minority Bar is looking forward to growing their membership base. They have a new and improved website that is up and running and will be a center for discussion and information in the future.

WA Women Lawyers – Jennifer Andrews

The WWL have been busy with several events from a Christmas Party held to gather socks that were donated to children for the holidays, to a Happy Hour on January 25th, to a new sidebar/coffee with the Judges. They are planning a big membership event in March during Women's History Month.

Young Lawyers Section – Kelley Kavanagh, President

Kelley Kavanagh, new Young Lawyer Section President, reported that Law Day is coming up and they are trying to get the community and schools more engaged this year. There will be a couple of socials planned in February and August. She is looking forward to a great year.

Law School Liaison – Professor John Weaver

Matt announced that John was made a permanent law school liaison to the board because he is such a valued member of our board.

The meeting was ADJOURNED at 8:05 AM.