

**TACOMA PIERCE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, May 14, 2017  
Tacoma Harvester Restaurant

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:15 by President Diane Clarkson.

**PRESENT**

President	Diane Clarkson
Vice President	Steve Merrival
Secretary-Treasurer	Sarah Richardson
Trustee	Heather Straub
Trustee	Amanda Searle
Trustee	Antoni Froehling
Trustee	Lindsay Camandona
Trustee	Nicholas Andrews
Pierce County Superior Court Liaison	Judge Elizabeth Martin
Pierce County Commissioner Liaison	Commissioner Mark Gelman
Pierce County Commissioner Liaison	Commissioner Diana Kiesel
Pierce County District Court Liaison	Judge Judy Jasprica
Young Lawyers Section President	Kelley Kavanaugh
Immediate Past-President	Matthew Thomas
Family Law Section Liaison	Terri Farmer
Volunteer Legal Services Liaison	Chris Maharry
Minority Bar Liaison	Mark Brady
WSBA Liaison, 6 <sup>th</sup> District	Keith Black
Seattle University Law School Liaison	Professor John Weaver
Washington Women Lawyers	Jennifer Andrews
Executive Director	Kit Kasner

**ABSENT**

Criminal Law Section	Claire Vitikainen
Collaborative Law Liaison	Lynn Johnson
Tacoma Municipal Court Judicial Liaison	Judge David Ladenburg
Trustee	John Wilson

**APRIL MEETING MINUTES**

Motion and approval to adopt April meeting minutes with correction that the Washington Women Lawyers clothing drive has not yet occurred. It's set for May 24.

**OFFICER REPORTS**

**President's Report – Diane Clarkson**

Diane has attended several TPCBA committee meetings and the May 3<sup>rd</sup> baseball CLE, Pierce County Executive Bruce Dammeier will attend the next Superior Court Commission meeting.

### **Vice-President's Report – Steve Merrival**

Seeking board approval for an additional budget expenditure of \$10,000.00 to hold Lawyerpalooza this summer. Volunteers are in place to organize and run the event as a fun benefit for members. It was not held in 2016 and therefore not included in the budget passed for 2017. Discussion was held regarding cost and budget, goals to improve from last event in 2015. Diane said that hard alcohol will not be provided. Heather Straub amended Steve's motion to allow \$7,500.00 funds for the event. This motion passed.

### **Secretary-Treasurer Report – Sarah Richardson**

The current financial status is good, on track to stay on budget at this time.

#### Unfinished Business

None

#### New Business

Lawyerpalooza, which was discussed in the Vice-President's report.

### **COMMITTEE / LIAISON / SECTION REPORTS**

#### **Pierce County Superior Court – Judge Martin**

The 2016 annual report is now available on-line. May is juror appreciation month. A project is underway to review underrepresentation in the jury pool from areas in the county where response to jury summons is low. During Law Week, 11 Judges partnered with the Young Lawyers in local classrooms. New local rules are proposed and available for comment.

#### **Pierce County District Court – Judge Jasprica**

District Court is awaiting the results of a grant proposal, and is investigating the feasibility of veterans court.

#### **WSBA Board of Governors – Keith Black**

Keith will be succeeded as the 6<sup>th</sup> District representative by retired Judge Brian Tollefson who starts 9/29/17. A couple of issues being discussed by the board are mandatory malpractice insurance and an opinion on potential restructure of the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals.

#### **Young Lawyers – Kelley Kavanagh**

The Law Day luncheon and swearing in ceremony were both successful. Watch for a social this summer, another swearing-in ceremony in the fall, and the Judicial Skit night planned for this winter.

**Family Law – Terri Farmer**

Thanks to Judge Schwartz for help in scheduling a CLE regarding PTSD issues in family law. The section is assisting with the Love Stinks CLE this fall.

**Bar Convention – Matt Thomas**

The convention will be held at Alderbrook 9/22 – 9/24 with a Beachcombers theme. Several excellent speakers are lined up.

**Volunteer Legal Services – Chris Maharry**

The annual budget is \$400,000.00 per year and noted that VLS helped over 5,000 clients last year at a cost of \$80.00 per client. Nick Andrews relayed that the Run for Equal Justice raised more than twice as much money this year than the year before.

**Mark Brady – Minority Bar**

The Bar is planning a series of panels and community discussions with minority populations in Pierce County this year.

**Washington Women Lawyers – Jennifer Andrews**

The annual Spring Clothing drive takes place on May 24. At the last meeting the group confirmed their strong support for VLS.

**Seattle University – John Weaver**

Over 190 students recently graduated from Seattle University School of Law and he is reminding them and current students of free membership with the TPCBA. The bar exam is in July. Professor John Straight retires this year.

**ADJOURNED AT 8:13**