

**TACOMA PIERCE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES**

Tuesday, December 19, 2017

Tacoma Harvester Restaurant

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:18 by President Diane Clarkson.

**PRESENT**

President	Diane Clarkson
Past-President	Matthew Thomas
Secretary-Treasurer	Sarah Richardson
Trustee	Nicholas Andrews
Trustee	Lindsay Camandona
Trustee	John Wilson
Trustee	Heather Straub
Trustee	Amanda Searle
Pierce County Superior Court Liaison	Judge Elizabeth Martin
Pierce County Commissioner Liaison	Commissioner Diana Kiesel
Pierce County District Court Liaison	Judge Judy Jasprica
Family Law Section Liaison	Amanda Cook
Collaborative Law Committee	Lynn Johnson
Seattle University Law School Liaison	Professor John Weaver
Criminal Law Section	Matthew McGowan
Young Lawyers	Kelley Kavanagh
Tacoma Municipal Court	Judge David Ladenburg
WSBA Governor	Ret. Judge Brian Tollefson
Pierce County Lawyer Magazine	Andrea McNeely
Washington Women Lawyers	Jennifer Andrews
Executive Director	Kit Kasner

**ABSENT**

Vice-President	Steve Merrival (Excused)
Trustee	Antoni Froehling (Excused)
Minority Bar Association	Mark Brady
VLS	Chris Maharry

**NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES**

November meeting minutes approved.

## OFFICER REPORTS

### President's Report – Diane Clarkson

Diane reviewed and clarified the nominations thus far for next year's Vice President and three Trustee positions. Two more trustee nominations are needed per the by-laws. She is working with Lisa Kremer on the awards for the Lincoln Day banquet, she attended Judge Heller's retirement and the Minority Bar's Christmas party. She's finalizing her last President's article. The Executive Board met yesterday to propose the 2018 budget.

### Secretary-Treasurer Report – Sarah Richardson

The 2018 budget as proposed has significantly higher expenditures than revenue. One necessary expense is for a new database for the TPCBA office. One reduction in expenses we can explore is eliminating or requiring payment for hard copies of the Bar magazine. The Executive Board discussed using 2018 to inform members about the costs and to phase out hard copies except for advertisers and for recipients who wish to pay extra for them. 350 members already receive them electronically. Advertising revenue could be gained if more is done on-line, and we may want to explore new advertisers. For the printed hard copies, the revenue from advertising is offset by the cost of printing the advertised pages. Lawyerpalooza and VLS proposed funding is the same as was given in 2017. An additional expense item is listed as "Community Service" for the President, Trustees or members to use for approved projects. CLE revenue is down as expected with increased on-line CLEs through the WSBA. The TPCBA may begin charging members for credit card transaction costs to offset those expenses. Expenses for the Bar Convention and Lincoln Day banquet could be reduced through additional law firm, advertiser or individual sponsorships.

We have over \$200,000 in reserves.

Budget discussion: Discussion regarding line item budget costs ensued including the new database, money for Lawyerpalooza including projected revenue, Young Lawyers allocation, Diane's talent show. Two motions were made and approved.

- 1) Reduce the allocation to Lawyerpalooza from \$7,500.00 to \$3,000.00. The 2018 bar dues form includes optional donations for this event. The motion carried.
- 2) Approve the budget with the amended Lawyerpalooza amount. The motion carried.

## BUSINESS

### Unfinished Business

None

### New Business

See Treasurer's Report for budget approval.

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

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

The new Commissioner rotation begins in January. Requirements for VPOs are being met via in-person hearings and Skype. A grant with the jail is offering treatment for substance disorders in the jail. A firearm surrender compliance docket is underway. Commissioner Kiesel added that the Commissioner positions are fully staff and ready to serve the public.

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

Two courtrooms will have makeshift jury boxes added to assist with calendaring changes. The Trueblood grant adds additional resources for parties and all court users including a clothing bank. The County Council is working on an appointment for Judge Heller's vacated position.

### **Tacoma Municipal Court - Judge Ladenburg:**

Judge Verhey is working on adding a mental health court to Tacoma's docket.

### **Criminal Law - Matthew McGowan**

Nothing to report, more to come in the Spring.

### **WSBA - Ret. Judge Brian Tollefson**

The new website for the WSBA is up. It has a few bugs to work out still. The next BOG meeting is in Bellingham in January and can be viewed on-line. Please attend the open-sections night January 20 (24<sup>th</sup>?) In Seattle. Bhmtollefson@outlook.com

### **Young Lawyers - Kelley Kavanagh**

Megan Driscoll is the next President. The group meets the first Tuesday of each month at 5:30. Please encourage new associates to attend. YL attendance is down slightly this year and the group is working on encourage more connections and inclusion with the TPCBA.

### **Family Law - Amanda Cook**

The section is seeking nominations for next year's board. Anthony Zorich will be the president. Board meetings are the first Thursday each month at 4:30 at Joseppes, and member meetings are the third Wednesday each month in courtroom 100 at noon. Each member meeting is a CLE credit for paid section members.

### **Volunteer Legal Services - Nick Andrews**

The law firm campaign brought in less than anticipated this year. The Puyallup tribal office will open soon and be staffed with a full time attorney. They already have more cases than expected. The Run for Equal Justice fundraiser is starting and the relay routes will be better spaced this year.

**Seattle University Law School - Professor John Weaver**

The school will host a Sidebar event in Tacoma in March for alumni this year. In December it graduated its first Master of Legal Science candidate. This is a new degree for non-lawyers. The law school also offers a couple of graduate degrees for lawyers. Professor Weaver will retire in May but will continue as liaison with the school and the TPCBA.

**Collaborative Law - Lynn Johnson**

Two trainings are scheduled soon. February 2-3 training at McGavick Graves, and statewide training in Chelan on March 2-3.

**ADJOURNED at 8:28**

**Next meeting is Tuesday, January 16 at 7:15 a.m. at the Tacoma Harvester Restaurant.**