

TACOMA PIERCE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES

Board of Trustees Meeting

June 19, 2018

Harvester Restaurant

PRESENT

President	Steve Merrival
Trustee	Amanda Searle
Trustee	Lisa Kremer
Trustee	Casey Arbenz
Trustee	Nicholas Andrews
Trustee	Kelley Kavanagh
Immediate Past-President	Diane Clarkson
Young Lawyers Section	Meaghan Driscoll
Family Law Section	Amanda Cook
Superior Court	Commissioner Diana Kiesel
Superior Court	Commissioner Robyn Lindsay
District Court	Judge Judy Jasprica
PC Minority Bar	Mark Brady
Law School	John Weaver
Executive Director	Kit Kasner

ABSENT*

Vice President	Ken Blanford (excused)
Secretary-Treasurer	Sarah Richardson (excused)
Trustee	Lindsay Camandona (excused)

*Absences noted only for voting members of the BOT

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 7:20 am by President Steve Merrival

2. MAY MEETING MINUTES

The May Meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

3. OFFICERS REPORTS

President's Report – Steve Merrival

Steve briefly reported on our two upcoming back-to-back events: Casino Night on August 3rd and Lawyerpalooza on August 4th. He is very impressed with the work done on the Casino Night Event by the young lawyers.

Steve is working with the co-chairs of the Judicial Qualifications Committee as there are a lot of judicial candidate ratings coming up for the two openings on the District Court Bench.

Steve attended a mentorship meeting in Olympia which was organized by the WSBA. He encouraged the participating attorneys and out-of-county attorneys to join us and become members.

4. FINANCIAL REPORT

There were no questions or issues regarding the financial report. Kit Kasner reported our revenue is down a little due to the payroll tax reimbursement not received from Tacoma Probono. It will be paid at the end of June when an expected grant is received.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

No unfinished business

6. NEW BUSINESS

No new business

7. ACTION ITEMS

No action items

8. REPORTS FROM THE LIAISONS/SECTIONS/COMMITTEES

Superior Court Judicial Liaison

Commissioner Diana Kiesel thanked Steve for initiating the Juvenile Court Committee chaired by Lisa Mansfield.

Commissioner Kiesel stated her next article in the Pierce County Lawyer magazine is on the subject of "Resources" and she recommended everyone to read it. One of the resources listed is Alternative Solutions which is a DSHS program aimed at helping parents toward self-sufficiency. They have a database of over 3,500 community resources in the state, they can connect you to the services you need. You can google [Alternative Solutions DSHS](#) for a resource list to use and to share with your clients.

Commissioner Lindsay discussed the new sign-in process for exparte. You now first proceed to the clerk's office, room 110. She also stated the Judges are still advocating for the 23rd judicial position.

District Court Judicial Liaison

Judge Judy Jasprica discussed a new Pierce County District Court Resource Center which serves the needs of anyone involved in the judicial system. It provides access to a variety of social services and programs (housing referrals, homelessness prevention, etc.) in one central location. The service provider calendar is posted by the elevators on the first and second floors of the courthouse.

Municipal Court

No report

WSBA Board of Governors Report, 6th District

Judge Brian Tollefson, ret., congratulated Russell Knight and Bill White. Governor Russell is the new Young Lawyer At-Large, from the law firm of Smith Alling. He joins the Board beginning in October.

Tacoma attorney Bill White was awarded the very first WSBA Professionalism in Practice Award. He was nominated by a local attorney who said “Bill exemplifies professionalism, ethics, and civility every day in practice.”

The new WSBA 2018-19 President-Elect is Rajeev Majumdar. He was the Governor representing District 2 and the vacancy created by his election to the position of President-elect will be filled at a special meeting of the Board. Other new governors were elected to several other district seats and most will join the Board beginning in October. However, none of the elected district board seats that cover Pierce County (Districts 6, 8, 9, and 10) were up for election this year.

Of major significance was the passage of a package of bylaw amendments that will, in general, expand the responsibilities of the Governors.

Another set of by-law amendments pertained to the size of the board and qualifications. The Board finally was able to vote on a process for the consideration of whether to remove three new at-large board seats that currently remain unfilled. The new seats include two at-large positions for members of the public who have never been licensed as legal professionals, and one at-large seat for members who are limited license legal technicians (“LLLTs”) or limited practice officers (“LPOs”). The proposed “rollback” amendments would eliminate the public seats and the LLLT/LPO seat but would allow LLLTs and LPOs to run for election as district governors on the same basis as active lawyer members.

A workgroup has been appointed to collect member input. If you want to weigh in and get your voice heard please contact Brian Tollefson at TollefsonBOG@outlook.com before the board acts in September.

Young Lawyers Report

Meaghan Driscoll and the young lawyers are busy planning the details of their Casino Night scheduled August 3. They have now added a discounted rate for law students and paralegals. They will have thirteen casino tables and tickets will include drinks, food, and funny money.

Family Law Section Report

The Family Law Section community service project this year is with Habitat to Humanity on October 13 with a mixer to follow. Amanda Cook stated there is a need for Title 26 GAL Training which their section is planning in January 2019. They continue to hold their monthly CLE and meetings at the courthouse on the third Wednesday at Noon.

Steve suggested the young lawyers make a brief Casino Night presentation at the next Family Law Section meeting.

Criminal Law

No Report

Tacomaprobono Report

Steve reported he is looking for a new committee chair to take over for Brian Leech who will be leaving his position as Pierce County Prosecutor and Tacomaprobono Committee Chair, to become a new Administrative Law Judge.

Minority Bar Association Report

Mark Brady said their group is very active. Their second Community Law Forum was a big success and they plan to continue them. The Minority Bar Association meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 5:30 pm at the Tower Bar & Grill, across from the Library.

Collaborative Law

No Report

Washington Women Lawyers

No Report

Law School Report

John Weaver thanked the board for their kindness last month. He stated he will be doing a mass emailing to law students about TPCBA membership, as well as Casino Night and Lawyerpalooza to invite students to attend the events.

9. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 a.m.

The next BOT meeting will be held Tuesday, July 17, 2018 at the Harvester Restaurant in Tacoma at 7:15 a.m. All are welcome.