

TACOMA PIERCE COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION MEETING MINUTES

Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, December 18, 2018
Harvester Restaurant

PRESENT

President	Steve Merrival
Vice President	Ken Blanford
Secretary-Treasurer	Sarah Richardson
Immediate Past President	Diane Clarkson
Trustee	Kelley Kavanagh
Trustee	Nick Andrews
Trustee	Amanda Searle
Trustee	Casey Arbenz
Superior Court	Judge Elizabeth Martin
	Commissioner Robyn Lindsay
	Commissioner Diana Kiesel
Criminal Law section	Laura Rodgers
Family Law section	Amanda Cook
Washington Women Lawyers	Aryna Anderson
Collaborative Law	Leslie Bottimore
WSBA Governor	Ret. Judge Brian Tollefson
Seattle University liaison	Professor John Weaver
TPCBA Executive Director	Kit Kasner

Absent

Trustee	Lindsey Camandona, excused
Trustee	Lisa Kremer, excused
Young Lawyers section	Meaghan Driscoll, excused

*Absences noted only for voting members of the BOT.

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. NOVEMBER MEETING MINUTES

Approved by consensus.

3. OFFICER REPORTS

President's Report - Steve Merrival

Steve introduced Chief Administrative Law Judge Lorraine Lee who explained a new pro bono program to assist pro se parties with ADA needs to navigate administrative law proceedings. King County is sponsoring a CLE Webinar soon on this topic. Steve also encouraged nominations for the 2019 BOT. Three trustees, one vice-president and one secretary/treasurer position are open. Two candidates minimum are needed for each position. Lincoln Day Banquet award nominations are also being sought.

Secretary - Treasurer's report - Sarah Richardson

Sarah presented the proposed budget drafted by Ken, Diane and Sarah. It was unanimously passed. The budget has cuts to most items so that it is balanced for the first time in a number of years. We've been drawing on our reserve accounts for awhile and would have only 3-4 more years of reserves at the current rate. Activities and groups seeking additional funding are encouraged to find sponsors or conduct fund raising; the TPCBA will continue to advertise events via magazine inserts and the website. Our TPCBA live CLEs are also a significant source of revenue and collegiality so please continue to support those.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

5. REPORTS FROM THE LIAISONS/SECTIONS/COMMITTEES

Superior Court Judicial Liaison- Judge Elizabeth Martin and Commissioners Lindsay and Kiesel

Clarence Henderson has been selected as the newest Commissioner, replacing Meaghan Foley when she retires this month. Judge Johnson will be the presiding Superior Court Judge and Commissioner Kiesel the presiding Commissioner. Commissioner Lindsay encouraged pro tem commissioner applications for training next August.

WSBA Board of Governor's Report - Ret. Judge Brian Tollefson

The WSBA is proposing draft policies regarding sexual harassment and Supreme Court continues to study the WSBA structure and APR changes regarding the scope of LLLT practice.

Family Law Section - Amanda Cook

The section had a successful community service project with Habitat for Humanity, and is hosting back-to-back ethics CLEs in December and January. They also will host another training for title 26 GALs, and are examining county pay rates for those GALs.

Criminal Law Section - Laura Rodgers

The section is creating a defense network for Brady materials and continues to work on a bond fund to assist indigent defendants to bond out of jail. Laura will meet with Mary Robnett and the presiding judge regarding procedural issues important to the defense bar. Meeting attendance is up.

Washington Women Lawyers - Aryna Anderson

The PC chapter had a great holiday party, Carly Roberts is the new President and they are planning their Spring clean project.

Tacoma Pro Bono - Ken Blanford

The current chair wants to create a “low bono” project for those who make too much to qualify for pro bono but not enough to afford an attorney. Professor Weaver suggested talking to the law schools about similar projects.

Collaborative Law - Leslie Bottimore

RCW 7.77 is now 5 years old. Practicing collaborative law does not require training but the various associations do. Training will take place on 2/8/19 and 2/9/19 in University Place. See piercecollaborative.com or talk to Leslie or Tom Cena.

Seattle University - Professor Weaver

Seattle University’s part-time program is increased to 4 years now, instead of 3.5.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20

Next meeting is January 15, 2018 at 7:15 a.m. at the Tacoma Harvester Restaurant. All are welcome.