

April 14, 2023

Family Law Section Planning Meeting in Boise

Attendance: In person: Lisa Rodriguez; Melanie Baillie; Jennifer Schindele; Chuck Bauer; Lexi Vandry; Teresa Baker (State Bar); Douglas Leavitt; Alejandro Basalto; Kaitlyn Mitchell

On zoom: Kurt Swinburnson; Merritt Dublin; Tyler Rounds; Elizabeth Bowen; Rachael Nigro; Nancy Hurd; Carissa Carns; Mackenzie Whatcott

Old Business:

February and March Meeting Minutes—Motion to approve; Minutes approved

New Business:

Nominations

Rachael Nigro—nominated for Secretary/Treasurer

2 open board positions—Fran Stern has been nominated; Merritt Dublin nominated

Elections:

Secretary/Treasurer—Rachel Nigro elected

Open Board positions (2)—Fran Stern and Merritt Dublin elected

New Chairperson—Jennifer Schindele

New Vice-Chairperson—Lisa Rodriguez

Former Chairperson—Melanie Baillie

Family Law Section Recap

--347 members—one of the larger sections of the Bar

Teresa Baker from the Bar explained the mistake on the end of 2022 year financials which had an error of approximately \$25,000 included in our account. This was a mistake and has now been corrected so the current numbers are now correct.

Website costs have been cut in half due to the new Listserv service being cheaper.

Fall CLE that was in Coeur d'Alene in 2022 was the major expense for the year. This was significantly more expensive than previous years. We did have some vendors but didn't charge any fees. This may be an area where we want to look at getting more revenue for the CLE. Also, we had \$4,600 to provide written materials for the CLE.

As of end of the 2022 year, we had approximately \$24,000 as our balance.

Motion to approve 2022 year end financials by Kaitlynn Mitchell; Jennifer Schindele seconded; Motion approved.

Discussion of 2023 Budget

Try to get new members—Doug Leavitt brought up when he attended new attorney Bar CLE had incentive for reduced rate to come to CLE

Melanie recommended having a Membership Committee in the Section

Teresa brought up some opportunities: law students are going to a Bar fair in October to get information on sections, etc.; May 5th—new attorneys CLE

Melanie will chair the Membership Committee. Lisa Rodriguez is on the committee as well. May 5th—have a table for family law—Jennifer Schindele and Chuck Bauer can man a table. Could do a coupon for folks who sign up for the October CLE

Forms Book—Could encourage sale of these at the fairs

Other ideas for increasing revenue—increase dues amount. Teresa indicated that need to let the Bar know before October for the following year if want to increase.

Budget worksheet:

Administrative fees are based on how much work the Bar has to do for the section

Many of the expenses are somewhat static from year to year so should keep at the same level

Conference Travel--\$3,500 was in the budget but wasn't used for last couple of years; This is an incentive for the governing board to be able to attend national conference. The chairperson

and ex-chairperson had first dibs on attending and then opened up to others if they're not able to attend.

Governing Board—for travel to Bar meetings

In comparing expenses with 2021, this is a bit skewed as that was a COVID year where expenses were less.

Credit card fees—are going up and so discussion to increase this budget item; Propose \$1,200

Website—Actual cost amount was half of budgeted amount so can reduce to actual amount

Special Event Expense—raise to \$500

Donations—weren't able to donate for 2022 but could keep it in at same level for now

Keep remaining items at same level in Expense (Non-CLE)

CLE Expense—Teresa said most expensive places to have CLEs are in Sun Valley and Coeur D'Alene. The hotel rooms, food expenses, and travel to get speakers to conference are all most expensive at these locations. At upcoming October CLE in Shore Lodge won't be as expensive for the conference room. If do 2 full days instead of 3 days, could keep costs down.

When do a deposit on a venue, it's allocated to the program it's for. So the deposit for the CLE goes to that CLE cost regardless when it's paid.

Suggestion to have alternating CLEs—in Boise one year and then a destination CLE around Idaho the following year. This would help keep the costs down.

Recommend budget of \$35,000 for October CLE

Webcasting costs of \$300 per hour. Downside of CLE webcasting is less people come in person and still have same costs of venue.

Budget \$3,500 for administrative fee for CLE expense

Budget \$35,000 for total expected revenue for CLEs: \$28,000 for CLE registrations; \$3,000 for publications and \$4,000 for royalties

Committees for 2023-2024:

1. National Conference—Chairperson is chair; Kaitlynn will be on; Jennifer Brumley may see if she's willing to be on this
2. October CLE for 2024—Lisa Rodriguez will be chair; Melanie Baillie, Tyler Rounds, Fran Stern and Elizabeth Bowen will be on
3. Other CLE's—Kaitlynn willing to be chair; Alejandra willing to be on

4. Legislation Committee—Mackenzie Whatcott willing to be chair; Melanie Baillie and Rachael Nigro and Elizabeth Bowen will also be on
5. Publications—Fred Zundel has been chair in the past and we would like him to continue; Mackenzie Whatcott willing to be on
6. Technology—Jake Welsh willing to be chair; Tyler Rounds will be on
7. Membership Committee—Melanie Baillie to be chair; Lisa Rodriguez and Doug Leavitt
8. Awards and Special Projects Committee—Fran Stern willing to be chair; Melanie Baillie willing to be on committee

Committee Updates:

1. National CLE—nothing new to report
2. October CLE 2023—Shore Lodge has been reserved but no deposit has been paid by the Bar yet. Judge's panel will be on the schedule.
3. Other CLE's—Kaitlynn says that she has upcoming CLEs planned
4. Legislation committee—There was nothing substantial related to custody/divorce passed this session. A bill on false reporting for CPS did pass (House Bill 66) and another bill regarding surrogates also passed (House Bill 264). Child protection oversight committee will be meeting.
5. Publications—November/December 2023—we're co-sponsoring with Child Protection. If anyone is interested in submitting an article, contact Fred, Jennifer Schindele or Mackenzie Whatcott. Article will be due in September 2023.
6. Technology—Working on having Tradewing come to present at the October CLE.
7. Membership Committee—new committee
8. Awards—Was planning on presenting the award at May 12th meeting to Judge Walker

Meeting Adjourned.