

**MINUTES OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION SECTION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

April 13, 2018

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair John Oswald called the meeting to order at 12:09 p.m.
Attendance was as follows:

Name	In Person	By Phone	Absent
John M Oswald (Chair)	X		
Katherine M Caldwell (Chair-Elect)	X		
Jenny Ogawa (Past Chair)	X		
Linda D Conratt (Treasurer)	X		
Bruce D Smith (Secretary)		X	
Bin Chen			X
Philip Harry Garrow			X
Keith Semple			X
Geoffrey G Wren		X	
Joe Di Bartolomeo		X	
Martin M Fisher		X	
Christine Coffelt Frost		X	
Colin Rockey Hackett		X	
John Klor			X
Allison B Lesh			X
Jovanna L Patrick	X		
Carrie D Wipplinger			X
Colin George Andries (BOG)		X	
Christine Ford (Bar Liaison)	X		

II. MINUTES

The March 16, 2018 (revised) minutes were approved.

III. CHAIR REPORT

Colin Andres provided an update regarding Bar issues. This is his first year (of a four-year term) on the BOG, and he is assigned to two or three Sections. He plans to attend several of our meetings

per year, at least by phone; and hopes to attend in person when his schedule allows. Colin noted that the Bar can help with our website as needed.

The BOG's current focus is on new lawyers, and they are trying to improve the new lawyer mentoring program. They will reach out to the Bar's CLE committee for input and guidance. The Bar's Futures Task Force issued a report in June 2017, with five key recommendations, which the BOG is studying in order to determine whether to adopt them.

The BOG is also reviewing the Diversity Action Plan for 2018-20: they are looking at three areas – members, bar operations, and public outreach.

Other ongoing issues include finances, committees, and discipline.

BOG elections are coming up with vacancies in Regions 4, 5, and 7. Interested people who live or work in the areas can still apply by May 8, 2018. (Elections will take place in the Fall.)

IV. TREASURER REPORT

Linda Conratt presented the treasurer report. (See Exhibit A, attached.) We are \$900 ahead of last year for Salishan registration – there are 323 members currently enrolled in the Section.

The Section overspent its \$7,000 budget in 2017 – actual expenses totaled \$8,193. There was discussion concerning whether the Section should charge \$10 per (every) attendee to the Bench-Bar Forum, to cover administrative charges. An alternative would be to raise Section dues from the current \$25 per year to \$30. We could then keep the Bench Bar free to Section members, as it has historically been.

After discussion, and in light of the April 23, 2018 deadline for notice to Section members for voting at this year's annual meeting, the consensus of the committee members present was to table the idea of raising dues or charging Section members for the Bench Bar, rather than voting today. The issue will be addressed at this

year's Salishan conference, so that Section members will have time to consider the matter and provide feedback.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Professionalism Award

Professionalism committee chair Semple was not present; but it was noted that Barbara Woodford is this year's recipient of the Professionalism Award. The plaque has been ordered, and Ray Smitke will present the award.

There was discussion about whether the nomination form should be revised, to include greater detail concerning the background, qualifications, and merits of the nominees. No recommendation on this issue was brought before the EC at this time. Until such time as changes are made, the Professionalism Award committee will continue its current practice of members making follow-up calls.

B. Access to Justice

Jovanna Patrick reported that Board Chair Wold is in the process of assembling advisory committee(s) to assist the Board in its review of the two rule concepts (translation of forms and notices; translation of written evidence) currently under consideration.

Jovanna reported that the Access to Justice committee's vocational counselor letter is being fine-tuned for final approval.

C. Salishan/Annual Meeting

Geoff Wren did not have a report from the Salishan committee.

Chair Oswald reported that the Salishan committee wants input on whether to have a mentor meet-and-greet breakfast at Salishan. (See Going Forward, *infra*.) Sally Currey may add this idea to the post-Salishan evaluation form.

Jovanna will have a chance to discuss LRS Modest Means program at Salishan, including the idea of pushing for full waiver

from the fee provision. She will emphasize the need for claimant's attorneys to use the program.

D. Bench Bar Forum

Allison Lesh had sent an email to Chair Oswald: per Katie Krametbauer, the Salem Convention Center is confirmed for October 19, 2018 for the Bench Bar Forum. The program will include presentation on ethics (by Ron Atwood), and employment law (presenter tba). The balance of the program is not yet in place.

Allison had also suggested that the Bench Bar Forum needs a budget increase; and Chair Oswald will follow up with her for the particulars.

E. Going Forward

Chair Oswald reported that the Going Forward committee recently discussed the idea of sponsoring a meet-and-greet mentor breakfast at Salishan. Claimant attorneys felt that the OTLA covers this demographic well enough, and that another event of this kind is not needed. The defense bar likewise did not favor the idea.

Chair Oswald reported that Spencer Aldrich is talking to the New Lawyers Division about scheduling a joint social event later this year, in the summer or fall.

F. Legislative and Rules

There was no report from the Legislative and Rules committee.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

The meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.

The next EC meeting will be at 10:30 a.m. on May 11, 2018 at the Salishan Conference Center.