

**MINUTES OF THE WORKERS' COMPENSATION SECTION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
November 17, 2017**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Jenny Ogawa called the Executive Committee (EC) to order at 12:05 PM.

EC Committee members attending or absent were:

<b>Exec Board Member</b>	<b>Present in Person</b>	<b>Present by Phone</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Bohy, Ronald	X			
Caldwell, Kate	X			
Chen, Bin			X	
Conratt, Linda	X			
Dibartolomeo, Joe		X		
Fisher, Martin		X		
Frost, Christine		X		
Garrow, Phil			X	
Harrell, Tom			X	
Lesh, Allison		X		
Ogawa, Jenny	X			
Olney, Kathryn			X	
Oswald, John	X			

Patrick, Jovanna	X			
Semple, Keith		X		
Smith, Bruce		X		
Wren, Geoffrey		X		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>4</b>	

## II. MINUTES

The October minutes were approved.

## III. CHAIR REPORT

Chair Ogawa reported on the HOD meeting last month. The main discussion centered around the changes to the fee sharing rules. The rules are being referred back to committee for further suggestions.

Chair Ogawa also reported that the section has received a donation request from The Classroom Law Project. Discussion on this was reserved for the Treasurer Report and budget discussion.

## IV. TREASURER REPORT

Treasurer Ron Bohy reported that as of 10/31/2017 the section's balance was \$24,976. Section membership is at 344, 328 of those paid members. The section recently received a bill for little over \$6400 associated with Bench Bar Forum and that is in the process of being paid.

We added 8 new members in October, 7 of which were unpaid memberships and so likely new bar admittees.

Prior to the meeting, Treasurer Bohy emailed the proposed budget for 2018 with the following comments:

**First**, the section dues are proposed to stay the same for 2018.

**Second**, the section membership is projected to be the same in 2018 as it was for 2017.

**Third**, the Salishan income/budget is projected to be the same in 2018 as it was for 2017. Pricing is proposed to stay the same:

\$200 before May 1, 2018, for members

\$225 after May 1, 2108, for members

\$150 for new members/WCB staff

There were 171 registrants for Salishan 2017

**Fourth**, the Bench Bar Forum budget is projected to be about the same for 2018. It is proposed there be no charge for the 2018 Bench Bar Forum.

**Fifth**, it is proposed that the section only make contributions to Campaign for Equal Justice and OR Minority Lawyers Association. Discussed during the year was a possible contribution for OLIO (Opportunities for Law in Oregon). The current donations reflect the section values.

**Sixth**, the general contributions category is proposed to increase to \$400 to reflect past endeavors by the Going Forward Committee (e.g., Bar Prowl, meet/great events, etc.).

**Seventh**, additional budget amounts are proposed for the Executive Committee for Bruce Smith potential mileage and \$250 for potential costs on video conferencing.

**Eighth**, \$200 is proposed to offset any costs for maintenance of web site by the OSB.

Discussion was held over the proposed budget. The EC decided to continue the current contributions to Campaign for Equal Justice and OR Minority Lawyers as those seem to reflect section values. The EC declined to include contributions to OLIO and Classroom Law Project in the 2018 budget. The budget does have a general category for contributions and the proposed budget increased that category over past years to account for future Going Forward Committee activities.

The budget for the Executive Committee was increased over previous years to account for increased mileage reimbursement to EC members for attendance at meetings as Bruce will be the secretary for 2018 and so will be traveling more. Treasurer Bohy noted that mileage to the Salishan and Bench Bar Forum meetings is not typically reimbursed.

The remainder of the proposed budget was discussed with no objections noted.

The 2018 Budget was approved by the EC.

## **V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. Professionalism Award**

Tom Harrell did not attend the meeting, but per previous reports was going to get started on the Professionalism Award process this month.

### **B. Access to Justice**

Bin Chen was not able to attend the meeting, but sent this update:

“[T]he committee found out that there is substantial cost involved with applying for CME accreditation for a workers’ compensation seminar through OHSU. We are in the process of determining whether this is still worth pursuing. We will update the EC.”

Jovanna Patrick also reported on behalf of AtJ. The committee has been working on two letters recently. The first addresses the issue of adding an additional “Notice” statement with important documents. Chair Ogawa is waiting to hear from Susan Grabbe for approval of that letter. The other letter regarding translation of written evidence was approved by the EC and Public Affairs and has been sent.

Jovanna reported further on the CME (Continuing Medical Education) process. The costs for getting a class accredited, plus the facility charges for holding the class would be approximately \$2600. The AtJ committee will look in to this issue further, including options of offering a non-accredited class or charging for the class.

Treasurer Bohy suggested that the AtJ committee prepare a detailed written proposal for EC to review. If we decide to go forward with that in 2018, there will probably be enough surplus in the budget to cover it.

Chair Ogawa asked the Bar liaison whether the section would need approval to develop and host a CME and charge for it. Christine will look in to it.

Linda suggested asking WCD to participate and potentially fund the process. Jovanna will talk with Stan Fields with WCD.

AtJ is looking in to whether there is an issue with access to vocational counselors. AtJ is developing a survey to send out to vocational counselors. Chair Ogawa requested that the survey be sent to EC first for approval.

AtJ is also looking in to the issues regarding the Legal Referral System. The section previously requested a blanket waiver exempting the section from fee sharing provisions. This was denied, but the section as given a temporary partial exemption by use of the modest means pilot program. That expired on 9/1/17. AtJ wants to go back to LRS and again ask for blanket waiver. Chair Ogawa asked if there was feedback on how modest means program worked. The EC will await further report and proposed action from AtJ.

### **C. Salishan**

Geoff Wren stated that there was nothing to report from the Salishan Committee.

Chair Ogawa mentioned the mentor breakfast proposal that Phil Garrow brought up during the last meeting. Phil was not present to discuss further.

### **D. Bench Bar Forum**

No report. Chair Ogawa noted that the EC needs a BBF liaison.

### **E. Going Forward**

John Oswald reported that he attended the Lewis & Clark Bar Prowl on 10/4/17 with Larry Schucht of SAIF.

### **F. Legislative and Rules**

Keith Semple reported that the committee has not had a recent meeting, but would be scheduling one soon.

## **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

No old business.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

No new business.

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING**

The EC meeting adjourned at 12:43 pm.

The next meeting will be at noon on 12/8/2017 at the OSB offices.