

**MINUTES OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION SECTION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
February 8, 2019**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Caldwell called the meeting to order at 12:03 PM.  
Attendance was as follows:

<b>Name</b>	<b>In Person</b>	<b>By Phone</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Katherine M Caldwell (Chair)	X		
Bruce D Smith (Chair-Elect)			X
John M Oswald (Past Chair)			X
Linda D Conratt (Treasurer)	X		
Jovanna L Patrick (Secretary)	X		
Joe Di Bartolomeo		X	
Martin M Fisher		X	
Christine Coffelt Frost (at 12:08)		X	
Philip Harry Garrow		X	
Colin Rockey Hackett			X
Heather L Holt		X	
John Klor (out at 12:40)	X		
Vincci W Lam			X
Allison B Lesh		X	
J Mark Mills	X		
Jenny Ogawa	X		
Carrie D Wipplinger		X	
Bik-Na Han (BOG)			X
Christine Ford (Bar Liaison)	X		
Danielle Edwards (Bar Liaison)			X

**II. MINUTES**

Minutes of the committee's January 11, 2019 meeting were approved.

**III. CHAIR REPORT**

Committee rosters – almost all are up to data:

- Nominating committee needs member to replace Meg Carmen, Martin Fisher has volunteered, approved.
- Bench Bar is looking for new members; email Katie K. if you know someone who is interested.
- Legislative and Rules – John K. and Keith Semple are still working on roster.
- Access to Justice – needs 1-2 new defense-side members, we have some leads.

Many EC members with terms ending in 2019. John O. will be off, Jenny O. and Chris F. unsure. Maximum number of years can serve is 9. We will revisit this at later meeting.

Scott Morrill CLE offer – Former manager of Client Assistance Office, offered to do free ethics CLEs with plug at end for OLAF. Committee sees no issue with this, will refer him to Bench Bar for consideration at later event.

#### **IV. TREASURER REPORT**

Ending balance in 2018 was \$15,965. Down 8 members from last year to 336. Made \$8,075 in membership dues. Salishan profit was \$4,082, but misleading because deposit used to be \$2,000, it went down to \$500, but that means an additional \$1,500 for 2019 will be due. Bench Bar has 136 signed up (including 10 non-section members who paid) and cost \$9,384.

No January report yet.

#### **V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

##### **A. Professionalism Award**

Deadline is today, subcommittee will be meeting 2/14/18 to make recommendations. There were 8 nominations, 1 ineligible due to committee membership.

Discussion on selection criteria and procedures, whether subcommittee should do outside research, review discipline, and/or call additional people mentioned by nominator. Jovanna P. felt this would be helpful for EC rather than relying only on personal knowledge. Bylaws do not seem to set specific requirements for procedures.

## **B. Access to Justice**

Working on several ideas:

- New members.
- Voc survey – ready.
- DACA – still discussing.
- Changing denial language; same language but reorganized to make earlier to read (8<sup>th</sup> grade level instead of 13<sup>th</sup>) plus separate issue of whether insurers should put in appeal deadline. John K. raised that sometimes the date the adjuster creates the denial and the date it is actually mailed is different.
- 827 form including release to attorneys, place on form to note attorney name.

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## **C. Salishan/Annual Meeting**

We have a tentative speaker list:

- Marcia Alvey for lunchtime keynote;
- Doug Querin, OAAP – mental health required program;
- Keith Semple – liens;
- ALJ Duffy, Chris Moore and Kelly Niemeyer – mediation traps and pitfalls;
- ALJ Pardington and Wren – burdens of proof;
- Dr. Evans – cardiac presentation;
- Sally Curry – Board function;
- Jerry Keene – recent COA and SC decisions;
- ALJ Smith – MSAs
- Greig Lowell – appellate update.

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## **D. Bench Bar Forum**

Still questioning whether to charge.

Location and date not confirmed.

## **E. Going Forward**

No one here to report.

## **F. Legislative and Rules**

John K. and Keith Semple are in communication regarding subcommittee membership. May need to advertise throughout the section for new members.

## **VI. OLD BUSINESS**

Section Website – Roster updated but still says 2018, link still goes to Jenny O.. Link to section membership just goes to general directory. Kate C. will follow up on these issues. Question on whether we should have links to articles, whether we should post past CLE materials (release issues). Carrie W. will follow up.

Bench Bar fees versus increasing membership dues – Bench Bar cost \$69 per person 2018. Linda C. suggested listing this actual cost when members sign up so they see what a good deal membership is. We have not raised membership dues since 2003; other sections are \$15-\$35. Allison L. will talk to Bench Bar subcommittee about raising cost for non-section members (\$50?). Kate C. will put this in the chair report to discuss at Salishan, with potentially voting on section increase at Salishan 2020.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

None.

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

The EC meeting adjourned at 1:02 PM.

The next meeting will be at noon on March 8, 2019 at the OSB offices.

Reminder that we will be voting on the Professionalism Award, that requires 2/3 committee attendance. Please come in person or by phone. If you cannot stay the entire meeting, inform Kate C. and Jovanna P. of when you can come and we can move the vote to a different time in the meeting.