

**MINUTES OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION SECTION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
April 9, 2021**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Patrick called the meeting to order at 12: pm. Attendance was as follows:

Name	By Remote Conference	Absent
Jovanna Patrick (Chair)	x	
Allison B Lesh (Chair-Elect)	x	
Bruce D Smith (Past Chair)	x	
Linda D Conratt (Treasurer)	x	
Christine Coffelt Frost (Secretary)	x	
Spencer Aldrich		x
Joe Di Bartolomeo	x	
Katherine Caldwell	x	
Martin M Fisher	x	
Philip Harry Garrow	x	
Colin Rockey Hackett		x
Heather L Holt	x	
Halah Ilias		x
Andrea K Knight	x	
Karli L Olson	x	
Jenny Ogawa	x	
Carrie D Wiplinger	x	
Joseph Piucci (BOG)		x
Christine Ford (Bar Liaison)	x	

II. MINUTES

Minutes of the March 12, 2021 meeting were approved.

III. CHAIR REPORT

Jovanna brought up how to recognize former Section members who have passed away. Bruce mentioned that Greg Bunnell was a past member. Bruce said the committee discussed how long a notice about them should be left on web site. He suggested leaving up for 3 months on the web site and that it lay out contributions to the section and not to mention about memorials and/or contributions.

Phil suggested the Section be notified to let them know what we are doing. Bruce said that was a good idea. Bruce is willing to put a notice out to the list serve about what we are doing on the web site. Phil is willing to help brief as needed.

Jovanna also noted Linda is serious about not being Treasurer after this year and says the nomination committee should beat the bushes for someone who has a lot of years left to be on the committee (9 is total number of years) and who isn't bad at math.

Jovanna also sent out an email on upcoming legislation that might be of interest to the committee. No one showed interest.

Lawyer for Literacy wants a contribution. They are on the approved list of who to give money to. Allison gave thumbs up on the SMART program. We will keep this in mind when we are ready to do contributions, which will likely be at the last meeting due to needing to complete payments for Bench/Bar and Salishan first.

IV. TREASURER REPORT

Linda reported bank balance of over \$20,000. 299 paid members, 11 comped members - total 310 members.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Access to Justice

Access to Justice: Bruce is liaison. Last meeting is Feb 1. Next April 26. Last meeting was discussion of ongoing projects including education of doctors about the rights of injured workers for post-closure medical care. Hearing Exhibits - some over-zealous advocates are requesting depositions of all doctors in exhibits and talk of about changing the rule. Look into change of form 801 and other forms to include a nonbinary option to denote gender. Also discussed Covid procedures such as Zoom and remote work. Someone was going to check with Presiding Judge on when we might be able to return to in-person events. Steve reported about MLAC presentation on voc survey; it was a tough crowd. Kevin Barrett suggested checking back with them 6 months from now.

Chris brought up that a client could not have a zoom hearing because hearing was transferred to ALJ Marshall who has arbitrary requirement of zoom hearing request be sent in two weeks before hearing. Bruce indicated he just needs 24 hours' notice so he can bring his lap-top in. He said he'd mention this to the committee to see if they wanted to ask the Presiding Judge for standard rule for ALJs needing notification of request for zoom hearing.

B. Salishan/Annual Meeting

Karli assured us someone is working on this but didn't have particulars. She expects to have an email from Holly next week. She will talk to Holly about sending a Save to Date on the list serve.

C. Bench Bar Forum

No report

D. Going Forward

No report

Legislative and Rules (covered in chair report)

Jovanna talked about the Legislation and Rules committee. Jovanna talked with Ben Debney about the mission and structure of the committee, especially the advising the EC part. It was decided the subcommittee should periodically do a neutral newsletter about what legislation is going on to send to EC, we can put it on the website if we want. Jovanna and Chris Frost will follow up with Ben for a doodle poll or another way to get the committee moving on this.

E. Nominations

Phil says committee came up with recommendations for 2 people representing employers and insurers (Christo De Villiers and John Young) and one for the ALJ position (Trisha Fleishman).

F. Professionalism Award (covered in chair report)

Bruce mentioned the notice of the professionalism award went out this week. It went out with an inaccurate email that had the wrong date (2020, instead of 2021). Also it still listed Marcia as Martin Alvey on the list of former winners. Bruce says Dustin Dopps is the person at the bar who corrected the incorrect date. Bruce didn't ask him to correct Marcia's name. Kate said Dustin made same mistake last year about Marcia's name and Dustin was supposed to change the template about the list winners. Kate said she would remind Dustin to change this again and ask him to do new with fully corrected form. Bruce will check the website to make sure it is listed there correctly.

Bruce indicated deadline for award was timed to allow the committee's final report and recommendations to be ready before July EC meeting.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

None

VII. NEW BUSINESS

none

VIII. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

The EC meeting adjourned at 12:40 pm.

The next meeting will be at noon on May 14, 2021.