

**MINUTES OF WORKERS' COMPENSATION SECTION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
May 14, 2021**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Patrick called the meeting to order at 12:00 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 late	
Martin M Fisher	x	
Philip Harry Garrow	X left early	
Colin Rockey Hackett		x
Heather L Holt		x
Halah Ilias		x
Andrea K Knight	x	
Karli L Olson	x	
Jenny Ogawa	x	
Carrie D Wipplinger		x
Joseph Piucci (BOG)		
Christine Ford (Bar Liaison)	x	

II. MINUTES

Minutes of the April meeting were approved.

III. CHAIR REPORT

Jovanna said she got a request from OWLs to support Marcia Alvey to receive OWL's President's Award for Diversity and Inclusion and write a letter of support for this award. Bruce will help Jovanna draft the letter of support. Christine Ford will double check that this is okay. Jovanna and Bruce plan to have a draft to us by next meeting to approve.

Bruce said the “In Memoriam” feature on the Web Site is up and running. He said Skylr Hall is doing a nice job.

IV. TREASURER REPORT

Jovanna asked who wanted to take over being treasurer when Linda stops. Linda outlined treasurer duties as follows: in October you have to do a budget, then you have to process requests for reimbursements, request payment of bills which you can do electronically, you have to sign a contract for the conferences, and request payment for Salishan afterward. You have to get budgets from Salishan and Bench Bar committees for their events to incorporate into main budget. Print out monthly reports. She says this is not hard. Christine Ford says the following folks are eligible to be treasurer: Karli, Halah, Andrea - have enough time left on EC to do this. Andrea Knight actually volunteered and we all voted to bestow this great honor and duty onto Andrea’s capable shoulders.

Linda gave a brief treasurer report that sounded remarkable similar to last month’s report.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Access to Justice

Bruce said they met on April 26. They’ve been asked to look at timing on exhibits, particularly the sudden withdrawal of supportive IME by defense counsel, then them wanting to depose their own IME doctor. The committee declined to take this on and Holly Sommers suggested the attorneys talk to one another.

Another topic addressed was whether the committee should make comments to ALJs on how to address witnesses. Carrie Wipplinger has a contact who she will talk to about putting on a class on consciousness raising on non-binary persons would want to be addressed.

They had discussion about electronic submission of exhibits, including Biscom platform. But he mentioned that with new CDC guidelines, maybe we might be having real in-person hearings again.

Bruce mentioned that Dave Runner has been on the committee for years and years and is retiring soon and the committee wanted to put a letter of thanks to him.

B. Salishan/Annual Meeting

Jovanna is going to forward the information on an inclusion CLE she got from Carrie to see if there is a way to fit that in.

Karli said Holly said all speakers are lined up except for one (Martha Walters moved to next year). Karli asked Holly to include her in the meetings so she can know what is going on.

C. Bench Bar Forum

No report.

D. Going Forward

No report.

E. Legislative and Rules

Chris reported that she has not heard from Ben and no meeting has been scheduled.

F. Nominations

Phil tried to get Martie McQuain to take over Colin Hackett's EC seat but says Martie can't start until January, but then he might be able to participate in some meetings before then. Phil has not been able to find a replacement for Colin's seat. Colin has resigned from EC.

Members-at-large have already been put forth. Phil is going to lean on Martie to buck up and start earlier. We'll vote on this later.

There was discussion of just having the seat sit empty but Chris said it was her preference that a claimant's attorney take the spot. She will tell Phil to strong arm Martie as it shouldn't be that hard to attend a few meetings.

G. Professionalism Award

Bruce reported that today is the last day to accept nominations and the committee will have an update at the June 11 meeting, to do vote at the July 9 meeting.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

none

VII. NEW BUSINESS

none

VIII. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

The EC meeting adjourned at 12:39 pm.

The next meeting will be at noon on June 11, via Zoom.