



Lane County Bar Association
PO Box 11379
Eugene, Oregon 97440

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

November 7, 2019

Lane County Counsel Office

In Attendance: Sebastian Tapia, President, Hal Neth, Erin Fennerty, President-Elect, Felipe Alonso III, Brad Litchfield, Secretary/Treasurer, Alexandra Hilsher, Amanda Husted.

Absent: Hon. Curtis Conover, Raquel Hecht

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Tapia and 12:05 p.m.

Approval of Minutes: Minutes from the prior Board meetings were circulated and reviewed.

Alonso moved to approve the minutes from the prior meetings. Tapia seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously with Husted and Fennerty abstaining.

1. President's Report:

- a. Invitations to new admittees to join the LCBA – Sent out notices to all new admittees with some responses
- b. Letter to Committee Chairs. We need to send out letters to committee chairs to encourage members to join and be involved.
- c. Tapia had questions and concerns about the financial arrangements with The Graduate requiring multiple check for events throughout the year and recurring deposits. The Board discussed the wastefulness of such a policy and how it increases LCBA accounting costs. The Board discussed contacting The Graduate to see if an alternate way of making a single deposit for the year's events could occur and reduce time and expense of issuing and accounting for multiple checks. Litchfield agreed to follow up informally with the Graduate.

2. Secretary/Treasurer's Report:

- a. Financial Update: The Board reviewed the membership and discussed the health of LCBA subcommittees. It was noted that there were incomplete subcommittee rolls included with the materials provided by the accounting staff. Litchfield agreed to follow up.
- b. Electronic Banking: Litchfield noted for the Board how accounting expenses had increased with our new accounting staff member, Suzanne Long. This was to be expected and her fees are not excessive. Still, the Board discussed how moving to an electronic system would enable quicker issuing of checks and less accounting fees. Litchfield agreed to speak both to Columbia Bank and to Suzanne about implementing this option.

3. Old Business:

- a. Consideration of Bylaws Committee's recommendation to amend LCBA Bylaws. The Board discussed the proposed changes to the LCBA bylaws and there was a general

discussion about whether this issue should be presented to the membership for comment. A number of members of the Board suggested that this was a matter that few members would have much concern about and delaying it by allowing comments would likely serve no purpose. Fennerty noted that there was an error at paragraph 5.2 that would require the number “4” to be substituted for the number “3.”

Neth moved that the changes be adopted, with the noted amendment, and Tapia seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

- b. **Committee Chair’s request to change committee name to Probate, Estate Planning, and Administration Committee. John Hudson has requested approval of a probate subcommittee as Probate, Estate Planning and Administration Committee.**
Husted made a motion to name as indicated and Neth seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- c. **Motion to approve John Hudson as Probate and Estates Chair.**
Tapia moved to approve Hudson as the Probate and Estates Chair and Hilsher seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- d. **Holiday Party** – Tapia discussed how he previously spoke with Pat Melendy by phone to discuss the band for the Holiday Party. The discussion involved that there will be two bands and the bands will share equipment.
- e. **Holiday Party** – The Board discussed whether there would be time at the Holiday party to photograph members. The consensus is that the Board wishes to keep the Directory updated so there is a need for ongoing photo updates and accessibility. Hilsher will contact Steve Smith to check availability and will have a description added to the promotional materials that photographs for the directory will be available at the party. Tapia raised the question on whether or not the Board wishes to start charging members for the Holiday party. Non-members are now charged \$20. The Board agreed that if costs increase, maybe in the future it will charge members, but does not wish to do so at this time. Tapia shared his concern about the rates at The Graduate may well increase in the future, making a charge necessary, but the Board decided to table the matter should such occur and consider it again at that time.
- f. **Motion to Approve Emily LeBlank as Debtor/Creditor Committee Chair.** LeBlank has been acting in this capacity for several months, though not a member of the LCBA or Oregon State Bar.
Tapia moved to approve LaBlank as the Debtor/Creditor Chair and Litchfield seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
- g. **Judicial Nonpartisan nominating commission – draft bill.** Tapia provided background that was requested in a prior meeting on the draft bill. The lack of information and a general concern for the scope and overall effect of the draft bill, as well as the Board’s reticence to get involved in a deeply political matter left the Board with the overall decision to take no further action on this proposed legislation.
- h. **Financial policy review update.** This topic was tabled until the December 5, 2019 meeting.

Good of the Order: None.

Adjourn: the meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:02PM

s/E. Bradley Litchfield
E. Bradley Litchfield, Secretary/Treasurer

December 3, 2019
Date