



Lane County Bar Association
PO Box 11379
Eugene, Oregon 97440

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 5, 2020

Lane County Counsel Office

In Attendance: Sebastian Tapia, President; Erin Fennerty, President-Elect; Brad Litchfield, Secretary/Treasurer; Hal Neth, Hon. Curtis Conover, Raquel Hecht and Felipe Alonso III.

Absent: Amanda Husted and Alexandra Hilsher.

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

1. President's Report:

- a. *Substance Abuse and Mental Health CLE Luncheon* – Approximately 77 people attended the last Bar luncheon. For the first time in a very long time, we made a profit (\$122) in large part due to Sebastian securing a PA systems that will save cost on an ongoing basis.
- b. *Supreme Court Luncheon* – This is currently scheduled to proceed and we encourage members to attend. Parking at the University will be bad considering the construction.

2. President-Elect's Report:

- a. *Approval of Meeting Minutes – February 2020* — To be tabled for one month.
- b. *Approved Bylaws Update* – There was question at the February meeting about whether the Amended Bylaws had been approved by the Board and Sebastian investigated and determined that they had been passed at the November meeting, with certain amendments. Sebastian previously circulated this information in an email following the February meeting. As Erin has the final completed draft of the revised bylaws, they will be reviewed and verified by Brad and Sebastian, and after that, they will be signed by Sebastian and then forwarded to Brad for record keeping and will need to be uploaded to the website. No other action was taken.
- c.

3. Secretary/Treasurer's Report:

- a. \$122 Profit from the last luncheon as noted.
- b. The LCBA has a large amount of pre-paid deposits for events. Deposits - \$900 EMS; \$2,557 Spring Bash; \$2,300 Graduate
- c. Expenses - \$671 Hershner Hunter provided staff assistance for printing and collating services free of charge, but we compensated them for their actual costs.
- d. Receipt Books – LCBA now has its own receipt books that we can use to give actual receipts for cash paid at Bar events. This will be a helpful step to ensure that our cash received

matches our cash deposits.

- e. Membership – YTD 417 and last year (2019) was 448. The Board should look at new membership or retaining existing memberships as a focus for next year.

4. New Business:

- a. *Presentation by Todd Johnston, Immediate Past President.* Todd encouraged the Board and membership generally to get involved in the new courthouse construction. The last time this matter went before voters, there were challenges with a late outreach. This year, the Legislature has designated funds for the construction that will expire in November 2020. Once the matter is on the ballot, Lane County representatives must back off in their efforts, so the Bar would need to step up and support the proposition. Todd asked for thoughts on the best ways reach out to LCBA. The project has been reduced in size to \$154 million reduced from 2017. His views are that we need to help the community understand that this is more than a courthouse, that is includes many other important public services. He is working with a committee that is fundraising for public relations for the project. The 2017 committee raised \$70,000, but he believes we need more money this year. A local PAC will be created and County Commissioners intend to meet with various community groups, including individual LCBA members that had concerns about the project previously.
- b. *Limited Scope Representation Committee Project Proposal.* The Board had a discussion that considered possible limited scope representation in matters in the Lane County Courts. This matter was brought to the Board through Judith Moman, as Pro Bono LCBA Subcommittee chair. There was general support of further discussion about this matter, a concern about ensuring the attorney fee agreements comply with the Oregon Rules of Professional Conduct, and that the Lane County Circuit Court judges can be involved in the discussions. Judge Velure is apparently supportive and willing to assist in project. Judge Conover requested that local judges to be kept in the loop and are allowed to have input.
- c. *Nominations for Special Social awards* – The Board discussed the need for new members on the Board next year and getting a request out to the membership to encourage interest in Board service. We also need to get going on the nomination process for *pro bono* and Koysdar awards. Brad was going to follow up on that and get proposed language to the Board.

5. Old Business:

- a. *Discussion About Lapsed Memberships and Renewals.* The Board briefly reviewed the issue of how we treat members that did not renew if they are renewing late in the year. Individual Board members volunteered to reach out to lapsed members to encourage them to renew, but it was decided to wait until the end of this year and then reach out for to the lapsed members.
- b. *Finance Policy update.* The Board Executive Committee previously discussed amendments to the financial policies and that is still ongoing, and will be followed up on by Sebastian. There is some concern about duplicative tasks relating to our program committee having to deliver checks and cash to our accounting staff and that being a duplicate effort. The Board decided that this might be considered in a future review of policies and procedures, but no decision was made at this meeting on possible changes.

- c. *Request from Pro Bono LCBA Subcommittee for Approval of Budget Expense for CLE.* This request was tabled to the April 2020 meeting.

Good of the Order: None.

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

s/E. Bradley Litchfield

E. Bradley Litchfield, Secretary/Treasurer

March 5, 2020

Date