

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE OREGON STATE BAR DEBTOR CREDITOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 26TH, 2013

The meeting was called to order at Salishan at approximately 3:00 by Susan Ford, Chair.

Committee members present in person were, Susan Ford, Charlene Hiss, Howard Newman, Wayne Godare, Carolyn Wade, Stephen Arnot, David Paradis, Clarke Balcom, Caroline Cantrell, Keith Karnes, Tara Schleicher, Justin Leonard, and Chris Parnell, and the undersigned Rich Parker. Karen Oakes and Dave Hercher attended by phone and Judge Randall Dunn (delayed by a court hearing) joined the meeting after it had commenced.

1. The minutes from the meeting of June 28th, 2013 were approved after a motion to approve by Wayne Godare and a second by Stephen Arnot.
2. Treasurer's Report: Dave Hercher provided financial reports to the committee by email prior to the meeting and provided an interim report which is incomplete in that it does not yet contain information from the present Annual Meeting which constitutes a large percentage of both income and expense categories.
3. Committee Reports.

Annual Meeting: Susan Ford reported that the registration at last count was about 100 and was expected to increase both by late and on-site registration.

CLE: Keith Karnes is trying to get more diversity in future programs in order to bolster attendance. This may include more intensive sessions in fewer subject areas. Clarke commented about the difficulty of fitting meaningful information in a 1 hour session, such as tax.

Consumer Bankruptcy: In the absence of Judge Dunn, Stephen Arnot reported that the last Consumer meeting addressed the new local chapter 13 plan form. There was also discussion by Charlene Hiss about the Objection to claim form being modified and there was general discussion about the Judge Alley decision in the Monk case and the service challenges raised by that, as well as by the recent decision by Judge Dunn in the Pacific Cargo case.

Legislation Committee: Rich Parker reported briefly on the new legislation (which will be addressed in more detail at the Annual Meeting CLE). The primary legislation was the change in the law to allow use of the Federal Exemptions in Bankruptcy. There was also brief discussion of the continuing changes being made to the Deed of Trust foreclosure statutes.

Newsletter: Justin Leonard reported that the forthcoming winter edition is in good shape and planned for October. It is on budget and the next issue will contain articles on Student Loans and the Issue of Leases vs. Security Interests, as well as Accord and Satisfaction.

Nominations: Tara Schleicher had no report as the nominations are done for this year.

NWBI: Chris Parnell reported that the topics are set, the session will be in Seattle on April 25th at the Grand Hyatt. The sessions will include a Clerk's Panel in lieu of the usual Judge's Panel, a panel on mediation vs. settlement and a Chapter 13 update by Keith Lundin and Hank Hildebrand.

Pro Bono Committee (Portland): Caroline Cantrell reported that the Committee met recently and discussed the budget which was maintained, in spite of a slight increase in space rental for the clinic sessions and the cost of postage for mailing information packets to potential clients.

Pro Bono Committee (Eugene): Howard Newman reported all is going fine and their budget can be reduced a bit.

Pro Bono Committee (Bend): Caroline Cantrell reported that there were 39 direct referrals to 9 attorneys and that more attorneys are being added. Their budget is within the Portland budget.

Saturday Session: There was no report but there was a general discussion about the need to have a new lead person (Keith Karnes will work on recruiting a new lead member) and that since we were changing the committee, we should keep the past venue in Salem for now and consider a location change for 2015 to decrease the expense.

New Lawyers: Clarke Balcom reported that the group was quite vibrant now and that there was a recent CLE taught by him and Tim Eblen and that the New Lawyers will have a meeting at a local brew pub at the end of the Annual Meeting.

CARE (Portland): Charlene Hiss reported that there are problems with both recruiting of volunteers and finding a receptive audience. It was decided to scale back the Portland program and reduce its budget, but to continue to serve Canby, Tigard and Jesuit. Clarke Balcom suggested making contact with "Financial Beginnings," a local non-profit to see if they can assist and/or partner with us. There was also discussion of seeing if the original program in New York had new materials that might be available to us. Accordingly, the budget is being reduced to \$500 and Gary Scharff will be the contact person for any further activities.

CARE (Eugene): Carolyn Wade reported that the program is doing well and that the budget amount is fine.

Website Committee: Karen Oakes reported that there have been no problems and that the website is working well. We will look further into the pass-wording of the Newsletter (both current and old editions). There was also discussion of the "service guide" being a pass-worded item.

Local Rules Committee: Charlene Hiss reported that new rules are pending, including a new Chapter 13 plan form and a new lien strip form. The judges will consider the new rules on 9-30, followed by a comment period and implementation on December 1st.

Award of Merit: Tara Schleicher reported that there will be an award presented at the Annual Meeting.

Federal Bar Association: Susan Ford reported that there was a dinner at OMSI (she did not attend).

Donation Requests Committee: Wayne Godare reported that there had only been 1 request for a donation and it is being rejected as it does not fit our stated criteria (relation to some aspect of debtor creditor law). There was discussion of a grant to a bankruptcy mock trial group.

4. Continuing Agenda Items: There was discussion of the Annual Meeting Agenda, including:

The proposed dues increase; the report of the Treasurer; the slate of nominees for 2014; presentation of gifts to departing members; and the award of Merit.

Following the above there was an extensive review of and discussion of the budget. Several changes were made to the budget from 2013 and the changes will be circulated by email in the next few days for timely submission to the Bar of the final numbers.

5. New Business:

The location of the next Annual Meeting will be Eugene and the Committee will be considering locations such as the law school or the Hilton.

Next meeting: The next meeting will be on November 1st or 22nd in the Portland metro area at a location to be determined.

There was a motion and second to adjourn the meeting and by acclamation, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:30 p.m.

Submitted by:

Richard J. Parker, Secretary