

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

NOVEMBER 22, 2013

The meeting was called to order at the offices of Sussman, Shank at approximately 3:05 by Susan Ford, Chair.

Committee members present in person were, Susan Ford, Charlene Hiss, Dave Hercher, Howard Newman, Wayne Godare, Stephen Arnot, Clarke Balcom, Caroline Cantrell, Keith Karnes, Tara Schleicher and Chris Parnell, and the undersigned Rich Parker. Karen Oakes appeared by phone as did Justin Leonard (sporadically). Judge Randall Dunn, Carolyn Wade and David Paradis were absent. Also present were incoming members Jason Ayres, Natalie Scott and Britta Warren.

1. The minutes from the meeting of September 26th, 2013 were approved after a motion to approve by Wayne and a second by Clarke. The incoming members were welcomed.

2. Treasurer's Report: Dave Hercher provided a report on the past year and the upcoming year, stating that there will be a deficit of about \$16,000 even with the recently approved dues increase. The Section currently has about \$26,000 in reserves. In the coming year we will use all efforts to minimize expenses and increase revenue. This will include trying to price registrations for Saturday Session and the Annual Meeting closer to cost. There was extensive discussion of how to fix the ongoing deficit problem which is using up the Section reserves, as well as discussion of particular line items.

3. Committee Reports.

Annual Meeting: Susan Ford reported that the registration at the Annual Meeting was about 120 which is a good turnout, but not enough to make a profit on the meeting. Some expenses are still coming in. There was a general discussion about trying to book a bit further in advance in order to gain some cost savings, as well as discussions about venues which might be less expensive such as one of the law schools or PSU. The next annual meetings will be in Eugene and then probably in Bend.

CLE: Keith Karnes reported that even though he is going off the Executive Committee, he will remain on the CLE committee. As part of the discussion of the Annual Meeting, people generally agreed that slightly longer sessions (90 minutes to 2 hours), might be beneficial for some topics. There was also discussion of the use of more "local talent" at the Annual Meeting and to have the out of area speakers brought to the NWBI.

Consumer Bankruptcy: In the absence of Judge Dunn, Rich Parker and Charlene Hiss talked about the last Circle Meeting which was dedicated to the new local chapter 13 Plan form and discussion of the possible forthcoming National chapter 13 Plan form. There were comments on the proposed local form by Wayne Godare (positive) and Caroline Cantrell (negative).

Legislation Committee: Rich Parker reported that the Committee recently had a brief preliminary meeting to discuss the upcoming special session and the next regular session. It is not expected that anything in the special session will be of concern to the section. A request from the

Council on Court Procedures regarding possible ORCP changes was forwarded to Rich Parker for consideration by the Legislation Committee.

Newsletter: There was a brief report by Richard Parker about the contents of the recent Newsletter. Justin Leonard later reported via email that the last issue was a success and that there are two articles ready for the next edition, but one or two more articles or ideas would be welcome.

Nominations: Tara Schleicher had no report.

NWBI: Chris Parnell reported that speakers and topics are pretty well locked in (including Susan Ford and Rich Parker). The meeting will be in Seattle on April 25/26 and a save the date announcement is forthcoming. As usual, no net revenue is expected from this session.

Pro Bono Committee (Portland): Caroline Cantrell reported that all is going well. There is a meeting of the Clinic Committee on December 6th. Legal Aid had made a late request for additional funds due to their postage expense. It was decided that since the request came after approval of the budget and due to our present financial situation, no further funds would be allocated for 2014. Funding is presently accomplished by reimbursement or direct payment of certain Clinic associated costs, such as space rental and printing of booklets and training materials

Pro Bono Committee (Eugene): Howard Newman reported that there had been 45 intakes for the year to date, 20 were referred to lawyers 10 are awaiting referral and the remaining 15 were either not appropriate for bankruptcy or choose not to pursue it at this time.

Pro Bono Committee (Bend): Caroline Cantrell had no report.

Pro Bono (Southern Oregon): Karen Oakes made a plea for a program to be set up and funded for Southern Oregon as soon as possible. The development was encouraged and it was suggested that Karen Oakes work with Penny Austin to set it up.

Saturday Session: The meeting will be on Saturday, February 8th, 2014 and will again be at The Salem Conference Center. There was a discussion about possible alternate venues for future years to cut down the expense. This time there will not be break-out rooms. Charlene sent a survey to the EC members that will be sent out to the section members and used to prepare for the next session. The issue of CLE credit was discussed, as was the cost of attendance. It was suggested that the cost should be raised from \$50 to \$75 and that the number allowed be increased slightly, but not by much (perhaps 60 paid attendees).

New Lawyers: Clarke Balcom reported that formal activities were concluded, but a party was in the near future and it has been a successful year.

CARE (Portland): David Hercher and Cathy Travis will be doing a presentation in the near future.

CARE (Eugene): Natalie Scott reported that the school requests were down a bit as was the number of speaker volunteers.

Website Committee: Karen Oakes reported that all was well and that Kent Anderson was doing a good job at maintaining content.

Local Rules Committee: Charlene Hiss reported that most of the Rules and Forms have been adopted and will go into effect on December 1, 2013, but not the Chapter 13 Plan form. The judges are still reviewing that after the meeting of the Consumer Committee.

Award of Merit: Tara Schleicher had no report.

Federal Bar Association: Susan Ford had no report.

Donation Requests Committee: Wayne Godare reported that he had sent a denial letter to the pending request (not within our guidelines) and that no other requests had been received.

4. Continuing Agenda Items: There was an extended discussion of funding for the Eugene Pro Bono Clinic and how to arrange it. The Clinic received a large outside grant last year that took care of much of its needs. For 2013 and 2014 expenses, itemized invoices may be submitted within the budget year for administrative services (intake, etc.) which are provided by LCLAC. Submitted expenses for the clinic not exceeding the budgeted amount for that year will be paid. The direct payment model currently in use by the Portland Pro Bono Clinic should also be followed by the Eugene Pro Bono Clinic for OSB accounting purposes.

5. New Business:

There was a brief discussion of fixing the Board email list to remove old members and add new members.

Next meeting: The next meeting will be on February 8th, 2014, in conjunction with the Saturday Session.

There was a motion and second to adjourn the meeting and by acclamation, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:35 p.m.

Submitted by:

Richard J. Parker, Secretary