MINUTES

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE OREGON STATE BAR FAMILY LAW SECTION

January 17, 2013

Present: Kristen Sager-Kottre -- Chair

Laura Rufolo -- Past Chair Marcia Buckley -- Treasurer Debra Dority -- Secretary

Members at large: Jennifer Currin, Christopher Eggert, Zachary Fruchtengarten,

Murray Petitt, Kimberly Quach, Anthony Wilson.

Also participating: Susan Grabe -- OSB Liaison

The meeting took place by teleconference.

Call to Order. The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes. Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously approved, it was <u>RESOLVED</u>: the minutes of the Family Law Section Executive Committee meeting held December 21, 2012 are approved as written.

Treasurer's Report. Marcia Buckley updated members before the meeting officially began that there are no new numbers at this time. This information was shared with the committee during the meeting as Marcia could not stay for the full meeting (though she rejoined later in the meeting).

Old Business. The following items of old business came before the committee:

- 1. Salishan Conference 2013 Subcommittee Report. Christopher Eggert, chair of the Salishan subcommittee, reported that this committee is in first gear. Christopher went through old manuals and previous themes and has come up with a topic list. Laura Rufolo advised that Gil Feibleman is our contact for the National Speaker, and Christopher will contact him today. Christopher advised anyone with suggestions for topics to email him, Debra Dority or Kimberly Quach (subcommittee members) with any such suggestions.
- 2. **Legislation Subcommittee Report.** Susan Grabe gave the report for this subcommittee. There are two bills from the family law section in the legislature this cycle. HB 2571 is a housekeeping bill regarding spousal support (terminates on death of either party), statutory restraining order (restraining order preventing unmarried parents from making

changes to health or life insurance policies), and where to file filiation proceedings. HB 2572 is regarding attorney's fees/costs in domestic relations proceedings relating to life insurance & expands applicability of life insurance provisions to domestic relations proceedings involving unmarried parents.

In addition, there is a letter from the Chair of the OSB Public Affairs Committee, Matt Kehoe, regarding bill tracking and the way the executive committee takes a position on a legislative issue. These are mandatory legislative guidelines (Chapter 12). There is also an email from Matt Shields asking that the legislative committee have written testimony ready regarding the up-coming house bills, as they will come up very fast. Both the letter and the email should have gone out to Kristen, but she did not receive them. Susan will check on this letter and email. Kristen requested this information to better understand the role of the Executive Committee in legislative decision-making. Kristen will send out the letter in whole or in part.

- 3. Webpage Update & Expert Database. Laura Rufolo gave this update. The website is up & running (and it looks great!). The subcommittee is considering what to do with the expert database. It will be a place to deposit information (rather than having it complex-such as with reviews of each person). Greg Oliveros was going to contact Jack Lundeen on the matter, but was unable to be at today's meeting. Tony will follow up with Greg. The subcommittee will determine what we want the web developer to establish for us so that they can get a quote for the database. If you have suggested changes to the website, you can email Laura (though she will be on maternity leave soon) or Tony, as he can make changes as well. If anyone else is interested in being trained to make changes on the website, please let Laura or Tony know. They believe it will be helpful to at least have one more person able to do so.
- 4. **Hardship Policy for Conference Fees.** Susan Grabe will contact Sarah Hackbart and look into the Bar's hardship policy. Susan will then connect with Zach Fruchtengarten, who will do further follow up by contacting specific sections to see about their policies, if needed. Zach is now the Hardship Policy Subcommittee Chair.
- 5. **SFLAC Liaison Update and Request for Funds.** Susan Grabe gave the update on this matter, as she received an update from Richard Funk. Recall the previous proposal was for the Executive Committee to provide funding for either some clerical services or the full \$10,000. The amount of the clerical services will be \$240 for this year (\$20 per month).

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously approved, it was <u>RESOLVED</u>: Family Law Section Executive Committee shall pay the \$240 charged by the Bar for the SFLAC to use the Bar's administrative support for 2013.

New Business. The following items of new business came before the committee:

- 1. Kristen advised the Executive Committee that our bylaws are in member groups on the OSB website under "Standard Section Bylaws." Also, at the next meeting, Kristen is planning to have the chair of the adoption subcommittee (John Hudson) speak & explain that groups role and its effect on the Executive Committee and vice versa.
- 2. Susan Grabe advised the Executive Committee of a pending proposal to expand the modest means panel, particularly in the areas of family law, immigration and criminal law. They hope to consider changes to the amount charged, alternate billing arrangements, and bumping up the eligibility from 125% to 250% of poverty level. There will be focus group meeting in the beginning of February and George Wolf is in charge of this. Jennifer Currin agreed to try to attend the first focus group on behalf of the Executive Committee, if it fits with her schedule. The Executive Committee discussed paying for Jennifer's expenses (travel, lodging, and food) for attending the focus group.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and unanimously approved, it was <u>RESOLVED</u>: Family Law Section Executive Committee shall pay Jennifer's travel, lodging and food expenses for attending the first of such focus groups.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

These minutes were prepared by Debra Dority, 2013 Secretary to the Oregon State Bar Family Law Section Executive Committee.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 21, 2013, 3:00 p.m.