

OSB Sustainable Future Section Executive Committee

September 1, 2016 Meeting Minutes

9:00 – 10:30 AM Tonkon Torp

Attending: Ann McQuesten, Alex Tkatz, June Wirick Flores, Robin Seifried, Rod Wegener, Maggie Vining, Max Miller, Michelle Slater, Diane Henkels, Courtney Johnson, (phone) Jennifer Gates

Guest: Alex Wall

August 4, 2016, Meeting minutes approved.

Committee Reports:

Awards/Partners Committee:

Transportation Challenge Award announcement is out; deadline Oct 7; send reminder notice.

Partners announcement is out for Bar Bulletin announcement.

Eco-Challenge (Alex): Alex attended the meeting in August: Open to all Section members; Alex will create the team (Sustainable Future Section), and we'll get the announcement out; will get raffle awards; on Oct 6 is a launch party; send to Alex the Partners criteria.

Editorial Committee: met this month and issue is wrapping up this month. Following up on League of Conservation Voters

Programs Committee (Maggie): last meeting was July, future program possibly on Childrens Trust, possibly homelessness, another tree planting event; 5 programs so far this year

Discussion Items:

Climate Change Task Force Report – Discuss final report and vote on adoption (all)

Our task is to discuss the recommendations and decide what we want to do w/the Report.

Michelle and Alex Wall request SFS to go full bore on working with the Bar to accept and do the recommendations. Recap what the OSB Liaison (John Bachofner) related re this report: re activity of carbon pricing: great; re constitutional amendment: discussion is a difficulty vis-a-vis *Keller*, Jim says this is not a *Keller* issue, it is a Board of Governors; this is not political; *Keller* issue is that if it is political then Bar must reimburse Bar members the cost of activity.

If it is Section resources, then likelihood of dissenters seems low. Seems to be Task Force and SFS role to advance this to the Bar, as consistent with the Bar Bylaw. How do we as a section membership support a legislative concept. Max shifts from supporting advancing a few recommendations to supporting providing full slate of recommendations and learn what is needed to move it forward as presenting it as the Section's recommendation. The recommendations are not prioritized so presenting as a single package is appropriate.

Carbon pricing policy does not require OSB BOG approval, volunteer attorneys does not, personal commitment does not, amending Constitution does, changing investment guidelines does not. Discuss possibility of media attention. Rod says send it to Helen H who will send it to the policy and governance committee. Send to Helen and meet w/her. Alex was on a task force w/Helen and is familiar with Report.

SFS is to decide whether to adopt the Report, decide what happens next. Also, good idea to include context and include the original Task Force Report or reference to the Bylaw.

Reading suggestion: putting the chart w/State Constitutions so it is separate, easier to read document.

Inform the Section membership on this. Timing of presenting to BOG. SFS EC seems to be on board w/adopting the Report provided we get Section input on the Report and that we plan to move forward on the recommendations. Decision to send Task Force Report to SFS membership and set September 30 as deadline for comments.

New York State Bar Association Environmental Law Section's Global Climate Change Committee Conference (Michelle and Diane): to follow up next month w/summary.

Nominating Committee (Robin, Michelle and Jen): Jennifer has the slate and there are a lot of names and Robin, Jennifer, and possibly Heather Brinton as possible non-EC member;
four people leaving the EC this year, EC can take on 4-5 people

Vote on appointment of nominating committee (all)

Website Migration to Bar Platform (Ann)

Estate Planning Amendment (June)

Proposed House of Delegates resolution from Labor & Employment Section: Comment that this doesn't really impact the SFS so take no action.

Section fund balances and consolidating sections or creating entities. Section fund balances will be impacted potentially greatly by the new CLE rules. Annual meeting a good place/time to discuss.

Next Meeting: October 6, 2016, 9:00 AM hosted by Miller Nash