Minutes of Executive Committee Meeting of October 1, 2010

Sustainable Futures Section

Oregon State Bar

The meeting convened at the offices of Landye Bennett Blumstein in Portland, Oregon at 9:00 a.m.

Attending: James Kennedy (Chair), Robin Bellanca Seifried (Treasurer), Diane Henkels (legislative contact), Dick Roy, Michelle Slater, Dallas DeLuca (Secretary), Jennifer Gates, Pat Neill and Ellen Grover.

Excused Absences: Rod Wegener (OSB liaison).

Sarah Hackbart substituting in for Rod today.

Guest: J. Charles Griggs

1. **Opening Remarks**: Jim

• Jennifer will be Section liaison to OJD e-filing task force

• Two great programs this month.

• *Portland Business Journal* will do a profile of Section award winners.

• We have great visibility, but not clear if we have traction with our members.

• We need an assessment of Section needs. This is chair’s assessment:

1) More programs

2) Day-long blockbuster programs

3) More members to finance 1 & 2

4) Outreach to other Bar groups

5) Outreach to law students

6) Launch partners in Sustainability program

7) Be less Portland-centered

2. **Approve Minutes of September 1, 2010 Meeting**: Unanimously approved minutes of September 1, 2010 meeting. In future Minutes, decided that the individual “ayes” and “nays” should not be reported on each vote.

3. **Newsletter (Winter Issue)**: Michelle

• We will give some formatting guidelines to author, but mostly we will format ourselves after content is complete from authors.

• Discussion of topics for next issue:

- Effect of climate change on directors and officers liability insurance

- Precautionary Principle: what it is, Pro, and Con.

- Features on Max Miller and Robin Morris Collin

- Report on Annual Meeting

• Discussed moving responsibility from Dallas to Bar for getting Newsletter on website.

• Jim will ask David Forman to write about Max Miller.

• Diane will ask Jon Ostar to write on Robin Morris Collin.

4. **Contracting with OSB for Web Site Updates for Newsletter**: Dallas

• Dallas can switch from making separate HTML pages to separate PDF files to reduce time to put Newsletter on website. Contracting with OSB to do individual HTML pages too expensive.

• Dallas needs to check if he can track hits to PDF files.

• Also discussed: wider distribution of Newsletter.

**Listing other resources on website:**

• Need to develop Resource page on website.

• Need to only list resources with both sustainability and law.

• Dallas to send email to Section via Sarah H. to solicit volunteers to help develop Resource page.

• Need sub-committee to help organize and develop page.

5. **Programs**

a. Review of Energy/Carbon Programs – Robin

• Approx 33 attended in person for each – 5 to 10 on phone. Not many Survey Monkey results, approximately 8 for each.

• In future, for short programs, limit to two speakers.

• Great response to Mark Trexler as a speaker.

• Despite low price to attendees, SFS netted a few hundred dollars.

• We should not raise prices.

• Discussion of getting section volunteer to do registration instead of OSB, but there is credit card processing issue.

b. Additional Programs – Dick and Robin

• Do we want more? Are there enough topics and resources to draw at least 30 people per event?

• Possibly Corporate Governance program in November and Legislative Session program in December.

• Diane to work with Dick on legislative programs.

• Full-day programs likely not viable. Staying within 75 to 90 minutes at lunch programs.

• For a half-day program, it might be viable to have a panel discuss the practice of sustainability, with a panel of practitioners.

6. **House of Delegates Resolution**: – Danny Lang (Call-in at 10:00 am)

• 30% of his practice is people who have a citation to appear in court for traffic offense.

• First appearance must be 30 days.

• Frequently, no charges have been filed and there is no hearing.

• If nothing filed, given re-citation slip to complete to show no failure to appear.

• Danny gave example of handicapped person coming all the way from San Diego at great expense for a “no charge” report.

• Person then has to appear again.

• Danny Lang looking for written support and endorsement of Section prior to HOD meeting.

• Has not asked for comment from OCDLA and OSB Criminal Law Section or with other district attorney offices. He only checked with Douglas County DA.

• Danny wants letter of support by October 8. Diane to craft letter to support exploration of changes to criminal rules that reduce greenhouse gas emissions, without addressing substantive criminal law issues that are outside the section’s focus.

7. **Membership Development**: Jim and Dick

• Need new members for: Increased funds for bigger programs and to potentially replace members who may not renew membership

• Discussion of making telephone calls to those who signed petition to create section, but did not join. Decision not to do so because of length of time elapsed and method original signatures gathered.

• Jim and Dick will approach key attorneys at large law firms about recruiting attorneys at those firms.

• Law student membership: no section doing active recruitment. J. Charles Griggs believes it could be done.

• ENR model for law student recruitment: Diane will email how it is done.

• ENR has law student associate members

• Also need law school liaisons from Executive Committee

• Need to check with OSB on policy for admission and fees.

• Pat – lots of OSB members don’t know the Section exists.

• Need marketing to all Bar members.

• Message about award winners for publicity for attracting new members.

• Need ad hoc subcommittee for publicity and marketing: Dallas, Diane, Ellen, Pat, Robin.

• Oct 28 deadline for advertisements in December OSB Bulletin.

• discussion of costs.

• Michelle will contact *OSB Bulletin* on having an article on SFS award winners.

8. **Notification of Sustainability Programs on SFS Web Site or by List Serve**

No action, deferred to next meeting.

9. **Additional Publicity for Award Recipients and Awards Ceremony**: Ellen

• Ellen discussed award commemorative for recipients.• Discussion of possible local artists to craft commemorative.

• Discussion of getting PNCA to design and create something, but might not be enough time.

• Ellen, Diane and Michelle get proposals

• Budget $100 per award, 3 awards

• Dallas moved, Michelle seconded, all in favor for $300 to spend.

10. **Update on DOJ Inquiry Regarding Filing Double-Sided Documents in State Courts**

• Diane stated that Judge Harris unable to respond to Section’s inquiry now, but very interested in the issue.

• Dallas to contact Yumi O’Neill in Multnomah County.

• Pat to contact court in Lane county.

• Dallas to check Clackamas and Washington County as well.

11. **Nominating Committee**: Dick

• Bill Kabeiseman and Kate Moore will contact existing Executive Committee members about future members and chair-elect. Also to ask about 1-year and 2-year terms for staggered board.

• Need to do annual meeting election electronically because not enough space for whole section at Ater Wynne.

• We must send ballots at least 14 business days in advance. We must pick an Executive Committee member to tabulate results.

• Diane moved, Michelle seconded, all approved to use electronic voting for annual elections.

• Announcements to go out October 14.

• Michelle or Dick to tabulate votes.

12. **Annual Meeting**: Robin

• Earl Blumenauer to speak at annual meeting for 20 minutes at 7 PM.

• Event starts at 6 PM with reception and tour of Ater Wynne.

• Award winners to speak, briefly.

• Discussion of catering and logistics.

• Need funding for wine. Or cash bar?

• Discussion of RSVP process.

13. **New Business**

• Briefly discussed setting up a list serve

• Briefly discussed using our section to announce events from other sections.

• Sarah – list serve separate from broadcast email. We would need to decide on use restrictions. Members can opt-out of list serve. For Broadcast emails, Sara updates list each time; list serve updated by members.

• To be discussed next time.

14. **Date and Location of Next Executive Committee Meeting**

• November 2, 2010, 9 am to noon.

15. **Options for Holding Executive Committee Meetings Outside Portland**

• Jim concerned we are too Portland centric.

• Section Executive Committee meeting could be held in conjunction with co-hosted even in a different locale.

End: 12:05 PM.