

**OSB SFS Executive Committee
September 17, 2015 DRAFT Meeting Minutes**

Date: September 17, 2015
Time: 9:30 - 11 AM
Location: Tonkon Torp
Call-in: 712-432-0375; passcode 1075762#

Present: Robin Seifried, Michelle Slater, Anne McQuesten, June Myrick Flores, Dick Roy, Max Miller, Jim Kennedy, Jen Gates, Diane Henkels.

Absent: Excused Lindsay Byrne & Maggie Vining.

Guests: BOG Pres. Tom Kranovich and OSB ED Sylvia Stevens

Motion passed to approve August 2015 Meeting Minutes as revised.

Special Guests:

The Board of Governors is engaged in an ongoing process to review all OSB programs and services to ensure they are aligned with the mission and that we operate with maximum effectiveness and efficiency. It is expected our conversation will cover policies regarding CLE seminar events, websites, and fund balances.

Re CLEs:

Tom: Bar is changing the CLE program. Background: Bar has a strategic plan, needed program review starting w/CLEs; these are running in the red. The challenge is that we have not increased OSB fees in 10 years. There are no more lower hanging fruit for cost savings, lawyer referral service is changed and is now in the black. CLE is next area—The #1 request he got on BOG was we should get CLEs for free, Bar members liked the quality, and availability—that capability is being enhanced computer systems upgrade in process. Tom wrote an article asking whether CLEs should be a profit center or a service to the Bar?

Sylvia: More background, and policies allowed sections to be more independent then they were intended to be, but w/sophistication of CLE and Bar, this doesn't work as well; OSB has unique CLE seminar service. Now registration will be through the Bar for all CLEs, on-line, pricing unclear as yet (10\$? w/out of house), programs longer than 4 hrs will have to be co-sponsored through the Bar. Programs shorter than 4 hrs can be on Section if no money received. Co-sponsoring the CLEs will enable webcasting for free. Bar is developing a master calendar for scheduling.

Re website: Bar wants them all branded the same, Bar will provide update services at 40\$/hr; link to membership directory;

Re Section fund balances:

Some sections are sitting on \$100,000, total was \$706,000. Bar requests comments on section fund balances—what is the appropriate reserve for a section? What should the Bar do for those whose reserves exceed a certain level (e.g. fund the Bar cost 100%?)

Re reducing the number of sections:

OSB has 42 sections, far more than CA's 16 sections and WA's 26 sections. So discussion to collapse certain sections. (e.g. Alternative grouping might be forum for a practice area, allow lawyers of practice areas to create their own groups.) The point of Sections is to benefit the whole Bar, not just those in a certain practice areas. Discussion re the issue of vitality of the sections even if smaller, and also of history of sections, "big tent".

Re general reminders: must run contracts through Bar's GC, no booze, trip facilities must be ADA compliant.

Thank you and congrats on SFS' maintaining membership with 300 members; we appreciate this section doing what you do. Sylvia's final day is 12/31/15. Her party is 12/10/15.

Committee Reports:

Awards/Partners Committee (Jen): Three applications received (Stahancyk, Stoel, Tonkon); consensus recommendation is Stahancyk but also recognize Tonkon. Recommendation adopted to award Stahancyk the Sustainable Law Office Award. We are also working on a draft announcement for the baseline for the transportation challenge, and we will be reviewing the criteria early next year.

Editorial Committee (Ann): No substantive update except summary e-mail coming out soon; composting award will come out in next newsletter.

Programs Committee (Max): Next CLE coming up is with B-Lab 10/13; also coming up in 2015 is Professional responsibility primer for the climate conscious lawyer w/Tom **Lininger** and Peter Jarvis; w/25 lined up for next year. Also Maggie is inviting others to her house for a screening of "Merchants of Doubt" for discussion and possible program.

Other Discussion Items:

Upcoming Legislation (Diane): Bills we are likely to see again—tabled until Oct mtg.

Nominating Committee Confirmation: Motion to instruct the nominating committee to keep same number of EC members (11).

Divestment (Ann): She met yesterday with Sarah Butcher, the Task Force point person for the divestment topic; Sarah's draft re divestment is circulating among the Task Force members; it was accidentally circulated to Theres Koloff on the OSB Divestment Committee requesting preliminary input. Three positions: we can't divest because of our fiduciary duties; you should be able to consider divestment given the exigencies of climate change; you must divest to fulfill w/fiduciary obligations due to the risk of these investments. Ann sees hesitancy on Bar's side as to what they would want to see. Makes sense to give Bar a range of possibilities and justification of each, providing information. Report includes examples of other universities that have or are considering divestment. Documents of main consideration: Bylaws re investment, Bylaw 26, Recommendation.

Climate Change Task Force recommendation: Discussion re relation between Climate Change Task Force and SFS, and how to proceed when report is finished.

Webmaster: Discussion re scope of Rinee's work given change in Bar's handling websites; SFS would still like to use Rinee as content editor. Also, pending OSB contract approval, have her visit/skype or at least dial in.

Next meeting is 10/15 at Miller Nash.