**May 2014 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

**OSB Sustainable Future Section**

May 1, 2014, 9:00 AM, at Schwabe Williamson & Wyatt

Present: Jennifer Gates, Max Miller, Dick Roy, Maggie Vining, Robin Seifried, Diane Henkels, Janna Aginsky, Ann McQuesten, Michelle Slater

Absent (With Notice): Monique Hawthorne, Jim Kennedy

By Phone: None

Guests: None

Approval of April 2014 Meeting Minutes

With minor changes noted by Diane Henkels, Dick Roy moved to approve the April minutes; Janna Aginsky seconded the motion; the April minutes as amended were approved by unanimous vote.

Membership Report

Robin Seifried will check financial reports from the Bar before the June meeting in order to provide a report on new membership numbers.

Budget

Jennifer Gates reported that the Section remains in sound financial standing, with approximately $10,000 of unallocated funds in its account. Robin Seifried noted that the Bar may raise this as an issue if we retain an excessive unused surplus.

Programs Committee Report

Maggie Vining provided an update on the planned Oregon Wild field trip, and noted that Jim Kennedy will send out an announcement with details. The Programs Committee will not ask the Section to cover any budget shortfall; if there are not at least 25 paid participants the Section will cancel the trip. The group discussed which Bar sections the email invite will go to.

Diane Henkels announced that the invitation will go out either this week or next week for the solo and small firm CLE, which is scheduled for May 28. Dan Parr from OJD will discuss the Multnomah County e-court rollout and Mark Lang will discuss sustainable office practices. The group suggested that an affiliate of the Section’s partners program should be on the panel, and Jennifer Gates requested that someone talk about and encourage the 2014 law office leadership award.

Maggie reported that programs planned for the second half of the year include an access to justice CLE, a program on environmental ethics, and a program discussing agriculture.

Diane asked if the Programs Committee is attempting to use local resources to the extent relevant to a particular program and provided the example that she has a contact on the Oregon Coast with expertise in the Marine Mammals Protection Act. Jennifer asked if the Programs Committee has discussed a “blockbuster” CLE for 2014. Maggie responded that it has not but that additional use of technology in programs will require additional funds. The Programs Committee will discuss and report back; Dick Roy suggested a joint webinar with the ABA.

Editorial Committee Report

Jennifer Gates requested names of suggested committee members or volunteers to join the Editorial Committee. Michelle Slater noted that she would like to reduce her involvement in the committee, in response to which Dick Roy suggested that the committee appoint a content editor and that Michelle continue oversight of layout, format, etc.

Further Discussion of Possible 2015 Theme

The Committee continued its discussion of organizing its activities around a theme in 2015. The group discussed the pros and cons of adopting a theme, and members suggested a variety of themes and formats for organizing around a theme. The Committee will keep this discussion going but no decisions on a theme were made.

Further Discussion of Possible Section Support for Conservation Land Trust Pro Bono Effort

Diane Henkels communicated Rod Wegener’s suggestion that the Committee should send a letter to Sylvia Stevens regarding Pro Bono certification of the Land Trust Program so that she will put the issues on the Board of Governors Committee on Governance agenda for its May 23rd meeting. The Committee then discussed the draft letter prepared by Diane and Janna Aginksy.

Jennifer Gates suggested that we not pursue the issue until we decide to go about it as a Section in a more considered way. Diane will get more detail on the May 23rd meeting to see if we need to get the issue on the table for that meeting and will find out what other similar issue is being discussed at that meeting.

Janna suggested that we narrow the letter to seek certification just of the Land Trust Program and come back to the idea of expanding the pro bono definition in the future.

Diane will redraft the letter explaining that the Land Trust Program fits within the bar’s criteria and should be approved. Diane will find out if this is appropriate for May 23rd meeting and push for its inclusion as needed.

Further Discussion of Outreach to ABA Task Force on Sustainability

Dick Roy reported that the ABA Task Force on Sustainability has invited a Section representative to make a presentation at a Task Force meeting. Dick suggested that Jim Kennedy and Jennifer Gates accept the invitation on behalf of the Section in order to describe to the Task Force what the Section has done and to encourage the ABA to increase its efforts, perhaps by using the IPCC 5th Assessment Report as additional motivation. Diane Henkels noted that she would like to be the point person to follow up with the ABA. Jennifer Gates asked if anyone opposed accepting the ABA’s invitation. No one objected, but Diane Henkels noted that she would like to see what would be involved in the presentation. Jennifer will follow up with Diane and Dick regarding the Section’s presentation to the Task Force and will coordinate with the ABA on dates, topics, etc.

Diane Henkels noted that the Task Force will likely be extended into next year per her communications with Lee DeHihns, the Task Force’s chair, who has asked the Section to share its resources and recommendations with the Task Force.

Time for Public Comment

No visitors attended the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32.

The next meeting will be on June 5, 2014 at 9:00 at White Summers.