**June 2014 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

**OSB Sustainable Future Section**

June 5, 2014, 9:00 AM, at White Summers

Present: Jennifer Gates, Dick Roy, Maggie Vining, Robin Seifried, Ann McQuesten, Jim Kennedy, Diane Henkels

Absent (With Notice): Monique Hawthorne, Janna Aginsky

By Phone: Max Miller, Michelle Slater

Guests: None

Approval of May 2014 Meeting Minutes

Dick Roy moved to approve the May minutes; Robin Seifried seconded the motion; the May minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Membership Committee Report:

Robin Seifried provided a chart of Section membership over time. The Section ended both 2012 and 2013 with 296 members, and is on track to finish this year with similar numbers. The most recent month for which data was available was April, in which there were 280 members, including 8 new members whose membership fee was subsidized. Jim Kennedy suggested planning a promotion for the 300th member to increase membership, and the group decided to come back to this idea later. Dick Roy suggested finding an ambassador in each of the 10 largest firms to commit to 5 new members at re-registration time. Jennifer Gates suggested asking the firms to bring 5 new people to the Section’s next CLE and they can sign up there, which may be a better time than at the end of the year. Max Miller will send around the Portland Business Journal listing of the 10 largest firms, and Dick Roy will contact someone in each of 10 largest firms. Maggie Vining will represent Davis Wright Tremaine.

Budget Report:

Jim Kennedy reported that the Committee has spent no money so far, and has taken in revenue.

Awards Committee Report:

Ann McQuesten gave a report on the Partners in Sustainability Program. The Committee discussed a request that the bulk purchasing criteria of the Partners Program be modified. Committee members suggested waiving the requirement for one year or modifying the bulk purchasing requirement so that firms need not provide supplies in public conference rooms in bulk. The Awards Committee will meet and make a decision whether to waive or modify the bulk purchasing requirement.

Dick Roy requested that Committee members think of nominees for the President’s Sustainability Award.

Programs Committee Report:

Maggie Vining provided a report on Programs. The May program organized by Diane Henkels on steps to sustainability in small and solo law firms had 9 attendees.

In the fall, there will be 3 programs focusing on food with the following topics:

* Food labeling, to be organized by Jim Kennedy
* Debate on the GMO ballot measure if it is certified
* Food security

Jim Kennedy provided an update on the planned collaborative forestry field trip, for which 5 paid registrations and 9 total registrations have been received. Jim stated that if there are 15 total registrants the Section could possibly continue with the program, otherwise it will be cancelled. Jim will call the current registrants and see if they want to bring others. Maggie Vining suggested accepting payment by credit card, which Jim explained was only possible through the Bar and is overly burdensome. Robin Seifried suggested setting up a PayPal account; Jim will check with the Bar to see if that is permissible.

Editorial Committee Report:

Michelle Slater reported that the Editorial Committee issued one newsletter this year to members and a link by email to non-members. Michelle noted that we need a template for emails to Sarah Hackbart so that links to the newsletter are accurate. The Editorial Committee is working on a newsletter issue to be published at the end of June, with articles due by June 15. Robin Seifried has taken over posting the newsletter on the website from Dallas DeLuca.

Further Discussion of 2015 Theme:

The group discussed further whether it should adopt a theme for 2015. Robin Seifried suggested that the Committee use the Section’s food-related programming to develop a report on food at the end of this year to see if the report is useful, which would inform whether the Committee pursues a theme next year. The group then discussed the purpose of the report as a marketing tool that should be prepared in advance of the time when new members are joining the Section. The group decided not to actively pursue a theme, but that the Programs Committee should do what they deem appropriate and see if a theme emerges.

Update on Conservation Land Trust Pro Bono Effort:

Jennifer Gates reported that a meeting of the Board of Governors Committee on Governance took place on May 23, in which the issue of allowing non-PLF covered attorneys to provide services for the land trust program was not discussed, and that the BOG Committee considers the matter concluded. Jennifer also reported on her discussion with Sylvia Stevens and programs administration personnel at the Bar, in which she learned that the Bar has only certified two pro bono programs and is unlikely to certify the land trust program. The Bar’s primary concerns with the land trust program are 1) the program has no sponsor, and the Bar is unwilling to certify the program and act as its sponsor, and 2) the program could dilute attorneys’ interest in serving persons of low income. The Committee discussed both of these issues, and concluded that 1) the Section will not pursue pro bono certification for the land trust program, but that the Committee will place the issue in Paul and Nancy’s hands to determine if the program can move forward with sponsorship from a nonprofit, and the Committee/Section will assist further as requested and appropriate, and 2) the dilution of interest issue is not likely to be a problem if the program is sponsored by a nonprofit. Jeff Spere will be a resource on this point if necessary.

ABA Task Force on Sustainability Update

Jennifer Gates provided an update on the ABA Task Force on Sustainability. Jennifer, Diane Henkels and Jim Kennedy are in discussions regarding scheduling a phone meeting with the Task Force. The next meeting of the Task Force is on June 11.

Time for Public Comment

No visitors attended the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:34.

The next meeting will be on August 7, 2014 at 9:00am at Diane Henkels’ office, 420 SW Washington, Suite 400.