**September 2014 Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

**OSB Sustainable Future Section**

September 4, 2014, 9:00 AM, at the Law Office of Diane Henkels

Present: Jennifer Gates, Max Miller, Dick Roy, Maggie Vining, Diane Henkels, Janna Aginsky, Ann McQuesten, Michelle Slater, Rod Wegener, Jim Kennedy

Absent (With Notice): Monique Hawthorne, Robin Seifried

Guests: Sarah [Diane: Please provide last name]

Approval of June 2014 Meeting Minutes

Michelle Slater moved to approve the June minutes; Ann McQuesten seconded the motion; the June minutes were approved by unanimous vote.

Membership Committee Report:

Jennifer Gates delivered a report provided by Robin Seifried that the number of members on the Bar’s website is not up to date. The Bar’s website reports 287 members, but the actual number is 266.

Dick Roy reported on finding advocates from large law firms to increase membership. Dick has enlisted representatives from several firms; the Committee will discuss how the representatives may promote membership within their firms when renewal notices come out in November.

Budget Report:

Jim Kennedy reported that the Section has a bank account balance of $10,717. Rod Wegener noted that this number will not raise concerns for the Bar.

The Committee discussed suggestions on how it will use some of its funds, including that it will place ads in connection with the Partners Program and Leadership Award and the Section will hold its annual event. Michelle Slater suggested hiring a website administrator to keep content current, and Diane Henkels stated that she will send a request out to potential service providers.

Awards Committee Report

Ann McQuesten provided a report on the Partners in Sustainability Program and the Law Office Leadership Award.

The Committee unanimously approved Bodyfelt Mount as the recipient of the Leadership Award. Jennifer Gates or Ann will contact the firm and ask how it wants to be recognized. Diane Henkels proposed offering award recipients a list of options to choose from for recognition, including the possibility of having a speaker such as a political candidate or a volunteer group member.

The Committee approved placing ads in the Bar Bulletin and the Multnomah Lawyer listing the Partners in Sustainability. Jennifer Gates suggested that the Awards Committee explore the decrease in Partner applications this year and determine if the Section can do anything to increase participation.

Rod Wegener noted that the Bar’s President’s sustainability award nominee will be announced later in the week.

Programs Committee Report

Maggie Vining provided a report on Programs. The recent Public Trust program had 29 attendees. There are currently 22 RSVPs to the scheduled GMO debate, but the room can hold 60 and Committee members should encourage others to attend.

The access to justice program with Robin Morris-Collins won’t happen this fall so the Programs Committee is trying to schedule one more program this fall.

Jim Kennedy reported that he followed up with the Bar regarding the possibility of paying for programs through PayPal. This is not currently a possibility, but that the Bar is working on it.

Editorial Committee Report

Michelle Slater reported that the fall newsletter is scheduled to be published at the end of September, with articles due on September 15. The Editorial Committee will then meet to plan the next issue for mid-December.

Nominating Committee Report

Jennifer Gates noted that the Section is seeking 1-2 members outside of the Executive Committee for the nominating committee. Suggestions included Kim Pray, Patrick Rowe, and David Ellis. Dick Roy will provide a list of people who have attended the Earth Leadership Seminar for possible members, and Max Miller suggested that someone from Washington County might be interested. The group discussed the importance of meeting attendance for all potential members.

Outreach Report

Jim Kennedy reported on two meetings with Boston-area bar associations: the Boston Bar Association (“BBA”) and the Massachusetts Bar Association. Jim noted that the BBA is very interested in and enthusiastic about the Section and Lawyers for a Sustainable Future (“LSFS”). In particular, Jim noted that the Section could learn a lot from the BBA’s CLE programs and that he will provide a link to a list of their programs for other Section members to review. Jim has offered to meet with both associations again when he returns to Massachusetts.

Update on ABA Sustainability Task Force

Jim Kennedy reported that the Task Force’s focus is on figuring out how lawyers can practice in the area of sustainability, and that this mission differs from the Section’s. Diane Henkels noted that she is in touch with the Task Force regarding membership on its education committee.

Update on Lawyers for a Sustainable Future

Dick Roy provided an update on LSFS. He noted that bar associations he’s been in touch with feel that starting a new section is a large task, but that LSFS now has correspondents in place in 18 states.

Update on Office of Legal Guardian Study Group

Jim Kennedy reported that the study group has engaged an extern at Lewis and Clark to study the ombudsman for future generations concept, including determining how a private guardian might work and creating principals for intergenerational justice. Jim distributed the most recent set of principles and noted that they were endorsed by the parliamentary commissioner in Wales and not endorsed but appreciated by the Hungarian minister.

Discussion of Additional Study Groups

Dick Roy suggested implementing a new study committee to explore rights that transcend legal rights, and noted that he will discuss a potential program on the same with Mary Woods. The group discussed using Section funds or hiring an extern to work on new study groups. Jennifer Gates suggested that any proposed study should include a summary of how it is an appropriate use of Section members’ dues. Diane Henkels suggested a concept paper outlining any proposed study.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:36 am.

The next meeting will be on October 2, 2014 at 9:00am at Landye Bennett Blumstein.