**JANUARY 20, 2017 Minutes**

**Executive Council Meeting**

**Family Law Section**

Present: Laura Page, Jen Feingold, Todd Stahly, Meredith Cord, Joan McWilliams, Jamie Cage (Rutten), Brian Popp, John Eckelberry, Robin Beattie, John Haas, Anne Gill, Steve Epstein, Bill King, Beth Henson, Martin Brown, Steve Lass, David Littman, Jerremy Ramp, Laura Ammerell, Kevin Sidel, Peggy Walker, Trish Cooper, Helen Shreves, Kristi Wells

On phone: Joe Pickard, Deb Anderson, Bonnie Schriner, Jennifer Rice, Diana Powell

Excused: Rebecca Alexander, Martin Brown, Cyndy Ciancio, Ann Gushurst

Unexcused:

November 2016 minutes –Jennifer Rice was excused. Minutes approved.

Laura P: no report

Jennifer: FLI is coming along August 18 and 19, plus a half day trial practice on August 17.

Robin: No report.

Laura A. Treasurer’s report.  Bench Book income will start coming in next month, they were getting the books out to judges first.  Budget approved.

Todd Stahly: No report.

Patricia and Patrick are here from the CBA.  Patricia Jarzobski President of CBA.  How can we better communicate with sections? Sections are the main way that members engage with the bar.  There are 29 substantive law sections and 10,000 of the members are member of those.  Need to optimize sections because that is how people get involved.  How do we engage the next generation?  We do not want the young lawyers division to feel that they are separate and cannot integrate up.  Lawyers are the least diverse profession.  CBA is meeting every month with the presidents of the diversity bars.  ACT Now initiative – trying to get Presidents of diversity bar into leadership positions in other bar associations.

Colorado Womens Bar

LGBT Bar

Chaba – Hispanic

Asian Pacific

South Asian

Sam Cary Bar

Young People do not want to wait 6 years to move up the ranks.  There is a concept called micro involvement – speaker will speak again on May 5 and section leaders will be invited.

Patrick Flaherty – Overview of Strategic Plan.  He has been on the job for 2 years and has spent most of that time in strategic planning in Denver Bar and CBA.  The CBA has not had a strategic plan in its modern history.  There was a staff of 35 managing over 200 programs and it was not sustainable.  The world is changing for lawyers fast – for lawyers, clients and public and the bar association needs to be responsive to those they serve.  Bar Association needed to evolve fast.

10 month process in developing strategic plan.  Town halls, section leadership meetings, focus groups, member survey, etc.

REFOCUS 20/20 Plan – described on website and in our materials.  7 goals of the plan are intended to be in place by the year 2020.  This is a framework for going forward more than an action plan.  Without membership we are nothing, and young people do not join just because it is the “thing to do.”  They want value for their money.  If we are going to represent the profession, we need to reflect the profession.  We need to be statewide, not Denver centric.  Our dues are the second lowest in the country.  Most members don’t care what strata of the bar gets something done, they just want something done – working on making local bar associations more effective.

There is an Access to Justice Gap for people who do not qualify for pro bono but do not hire attorneys.  This gap needs to be filled, but not sure how to fill it.

Must Optimize sections – where members get substantive law and networking.  Polled members to see how satisfied people were – family law got high satisfaction ratings because we are active. CBA has increased its staff to help sections/give sections support.

Core programming – what members know and love – Casemaker, Colorado Lawyer, etc.

Utilize new attorneys – they are our future – we want to make sure we have clear entry points and pathways to leadership.

Reporting to the boards.  They are trying to measure the impact of each program so they can make sure it is having the intended effect.  Detailed reports on the action steps staff is taking to make sure that Refocus 20/20 is being implemented.

Melissa – topics that came up at the section summit.  Member engagement, communications, leadership, outreach, CLE, technology.  CBA will come up with a best practices handbook with samples of program ideas.  Several sections are starting listserves, including us.

They will be doing a member survey and we can add questions – to track member satisfaction.

There were requests for leadership training – how to run a meeting, what to include in minutes, etc.  They plan to have such a training this Spring.

There is an appetite out there for trying new things.  They put together a section leader listserve so that leaders can share with each other.

Peggy Hoffman – May 5 speaker.

Generational 61% of members over 45, 39% over 55, and 17% under 35.   Younger attorneys – there are fewer attorneys graduating from law school – 2015 class was 45% lower than 2010 nationally.  DU has permanently reduced its incoming class. Even if we hold our penetration rate, the numbers of younger attorneys will decline.  So that means that we need to attract more younger attorneys, who are not a “joining” generations and their firms are not necessarily paying bar dues.

Laura P. talked about idea of reaching out to new members of our section and explaining what the bar can do for them.

CLE is offering New Lawyer Edge - $299 for 3 years of unlimited basic CLE classes.  Everyone wants to hire a 3 year associate.

Idea that it is our job to invite the next generation in and mentor and welcome them.

Helen Shreves – asked about the 3 million reserve.  Patrick advised that there must be 2 million to fight attacks on the judiciary.  Patrick said that the changes making it harder to change the constitution may mean that we do not need 2 million.  They are trying to figure out where the bar association will be and what that means for the reserves, trying to decide whether to lease or buy – likelihood is that rent will increase.

Kevin Sidel – changes to child support – there is a specific deviation in the statute for significant time spent with child that is not overnights.  Also cannot go back to modify more than 5 years prior to filing a motion – for voluntary change of physical care.  Parties must exchange financial information “once a year or less often” if there is a change in their circumstances.  There is also a third provision added for support of a child – can adjust for money paid for support of a child not living in the home.  There are difficulties with some of the changes.

Legislative committee will look at the statutory changes.

Peggy Walker: Listserve is set to launch on February 1.  Still waiting for some information from Zach Cook.  Our packet contains rules and a proposed letter to section members.  The listserve will not be moderated.  Zach will be the contact for technical problems, and if there is a problem with a post, such as an ad, we reach out to Zach or Catherine.  Bill King asked why judges could not participate and talks about how helpful it is to have Angie Arkin on Harhai’s listserve.  We are looking at that provision more carefully.  Council discussed whether it is a good or bad idea to have judges on the listserve.  Pros of not having judges is being able to understand judges’ propensities, being able to openly discuss a case without danger of inadvertent ex parte communication.  Motion was made to approve Family Law Section Discussion List Rules – motion passed unanimously.

Peggy asked members of executive council to post comments once the listserve starts, such as posing interesting comments.

1. Amicus – no report
2. Book Sales – no report
3. Budget – no report
4. Bylaws – Bonnie Schriner talked about change she will be bringing to the table about having two young lawyers as voting members of the council
5. Education –
   1. CLE
   2. Monthly lunches
   3. Young Lawyers – Jamie – went really well.
   4. Mentoring –
6. Expert Directory – no report.
7. FLI
8. Grants – no report
9. Judicial Liaison -
10. Legislative – no report
11. Membership –no report
12. Newsletter – went out and was good.
13. Nominating – announcements went out this morning.
14. Scholarship – no report.
15. Judicial Nomination Committee – no report.
16. Board of Governors – Bonnie Schriner - New director for CLE will be on board next week (Vince Brown).  BOG is working on best practices for sections.
17. Colorado Lawyer – Trish Cooper – they would like more articles.  Guidelines have been slightly changed so that page limit can be lower. Major change in federal law which affects pensions.
18. AAML – No report.
19. ICON –No report.
20. Alternative Solutions
    1. CJD Mediator – Bill – Letter from Bill in the materials – Bill will be on Mediation Best Practices committee.
    2. Simplified family court – Helen – They have had a couple of meetings but there is a huge triage project that came up – Kara Martin – this came from the National Center for State Courts – big project in Jeffco, Summit and Douglas –the simplified family court will hold off until the study of the triage project is completed. Steve Lass – a gigantic undertaking by State Court Administrators Office – collecting data- highlighted lack of communication between this section, Access to Justice Commission, Standing Committee on Family Issues (Supreme Court/Judge Arp on Committee) and other organizations that are all trying to address the same issues.

Laura P. – In Douglas County they are focusing on victims of DV – different police departments have a checklist of what to ask victims of DV when they triage that Laura thinks would be helpful for us.

Steve Lass will be in contact with Kara Martin.

* 1. Unbundled Services/Modest means – no report.