UTAH STATE BAR
BOARD OF BAR COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES

AUGUST 22, 2014

PARK CITY, UTAH

In Attendance: President James D. Gilson; President-elect Angelina Tsu (by phone); Commissioners: Steven Burt, H. Dickson Burton, Kenyon Dove, Heather Farnsworth, Susanne Gustin, Mary Kay Griffin, Hon. Michael Leavitt, John Lund, Janise Macanas, Herm Olsen, Rob Rice and Tom Seiler.

Ex-Officio Members: Nate Alder, Heather Allen, Curtis Jensen, Katherine Judd, Aida Neimarlija, Jesse Nix, Executive Director John C. Baldwin, General Counsel Elizabeth A. Wright, Supreme Court Liaison Tim Shea.

Not in Attendance: Ex-Officio Members: Dean Robert Alder Margaret Plane, Lawrence Stevens, and Dean James Rasband; Assistant Executive Director Richard Dibblee;

Also in Attendance: Sean Toomey, Utah State Bar Communications Director, Michelle Harvey, Utah State Bar Access to Justice Coordinator

Minutes:

1. President’s Report:
   1.1. Jim Gilson reported on the National Conference of Bar President’s Meetings held in Boston in August.

   1.2. Jim Gilson reported on the Magna Carta Exhibit which he saw in Boston and which will be displayed in Utah in April 2015. The Utah State Bar is sponsoring the Magna Carta exhibit and will have activities in conjunction with the exhibit.

1.3. Executive and Judicial Compensation Committee Report

   The Commission discussed the fact that the Judicial Compensation Committee recommended a pay increase for judges. Everybody agreed that the Bar supports a salary increase to attract qualified judicial applicants and maintain a strong judiciary.

1.4. Lifetime Service to the Bar Award

1.5. Professionalism Award

   Both of the above awards will be given at the Fall Forum in November 2014. In order to make the awards meaningful, the Commission would like all Commissioners to suggest nominees and seek nominees from the sections and committees for which they are
liaisons. Information about nominees should include background and qualifications so the Commission can adequately and meaningfully consider the nominees. Everybody agreed that nominations for the awards should be well published in the President’s Message and on the Bar’s website.

1.6. Blomquist Hale

Bar pays $75,000 per year for the benefit. Commission agreed it is a great benefit but that it is underutilized. Commission discussed ways to make sure members know about the counseling.

2. Program Discussions:

2.1. Access to Justice Programs. Rob Rice reported on the Pro Bono Commission and how successful the pro bono program has been doing since its launch 2 years ago. Next step is to focus on how to take the pro bono program to the next level in terms of keeping momentum going, acquiring a new database for case management, how to best utilize volunteer lawyers and how to involve more bar staff. Commission discussed the large demand for family law legal services and ways to encourage more lawyers from all practice areas to take on pro bono family law cases.

John Lund reported on the Modest Means Program. John Lund emphasized the need to distinguish between the Modest Means Program and the Pro Bono Program. Modest Means is different because it will change how the public perceives lawyers by demonstrating that legal services are affordable for all people. Future goal for Modest Means is to better advertise the program to the public and get business leaders on the Modest Means Committee.

2.2 NLTP. Elizabeth Wright reported on the status of the NLTP. Emily Sorensen is the new NLTP Coordinator as of July 14, 2014. The Utah State Bar NLTP Committee has taken over mentor approval from the Supreme Court’s Professionalism Committee. The NLTP Committee established policies and procedures for mentor approval and the approval process is going well.

2.3 Program Performance Review: Jim Gilson announced that the Commission will form committees to conduct performance reviews of the OPC, CLE Department, the NLTP and the Bar budget.

3. Open Mic Time:

Each Commissioner present described his or her goals for the next year and ideas for having those goals implemented.

HANDOUTS DISTRIBUTED AT MEETING:

1. 2014 NABE NCBP NCBF Annual Meeting Program
2. Information about Magna Carta exhibition
3. Agenda for the August 11, 2014 meeting of the Utah Elected Official and Judicial Compensation Commission
4. Information and history about the Utah State bar Lifetime Service Award
5. List of past winners of the Professionalism Award
6. Information and statistics on Blomquist Hale
7. Bar Commissioner position description and handouts regarding duties and responsibilities of a board member.
8. August 22, 2014 Commission Meeting Minutes
9. Copy of Rule 14-101 and 14-102 of the Rules Governing the Utah State bar
10. Information about the Modest means Program
11. Information about the NLTP

ADJOURNED: 5:20 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA:
1. Approved July 16, 2014 Commission Meeting Minutes
2. Reappoint Nate Alder as ABA Delegate 2014-2016

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Not in Attendance: Commissioners: Steven Burt, Susanne Gustin, Herm Olsen, Ex-Officio Members: Margaret Plane, Lawrence Stevens, Assistant Executive Director Richard Dibblee.

Also in Attendance: Sean Toomey, Utah State Bar Communications Director and Charlotte Miller

Minutes:

2. Commission discussed the future of the Summer Convention and the need to reach decisions about the Convention in light of the convention’s historical and cultural importance to the bar and the changing demographics of the bar membership and ways in which CLE is obtained by members. Angelia Tsu has asked Aida Neimarlija to chair the 2016 Summer Convention. Aida will present her recommendation for the location of that convention at the October 10, 2014 Commission meeting.

HANDOUTS DISTRIBUTED AT MEETING:
1. History of Bar Commission Priorities
2. 2014-2015 Commission Liaisons to Committees. Local/Specialty Bars and Sections
3. 2014 Summer Convention Survey
5. Chart: Convention Registration Totals by Year
6. 2013-2014 Western States Bar Survey
7. Sample scenarios and questions for Charlotte Miller’s leadership workshop

ADJOURNED: 1:00 p.m.