

**UTAH STATE BAR  
BOARD OF BAR COMMISSIONERS  
MINUTES**

**AUGUST 26, 2016**

**DEER VALLEY, UTAH**

**In Attendance:** President Rob Rice, President-elect John Lund, Commissioners: Grace Acosta, John Bradley, Steven Burt, H. Dickson Burton, Kate Conyers, Heather Farnsworth, Mary Kay Griffin, Liisa Hancock, Michelle Mumford, Herm Olsen, Heather Thuet and Katie Woods.

**Ex-Officio Members:** Dean Robert Adler, Nate Alder; Julie Emery, Amy Fowler, Jaelynn Jenkins, Jamie Sorenson, Margaret Plane, Diana Hagen and Chris Wharton.

**Not in Attendance:** Cara Tangaro. Ex-Officio Members: Angelina Tsu and Gordon Smith.

**Also in Attendance:** Executive Director John C. Baldwin, Assistant Executive Director Richard Dibblee and General Counsel Elizabeth A. Wright.

**Minutes: 12:25 p.m. start**

**1. President's Report – 2016-2017 Initiatives: Rob Rice**

**1.1 Member Centric Website.** Rob Rice is interested in ways to make the Bar website easier to navigate and more member centric. John Lund and Cara Tangaro will head up an effort to investigate possible ways to accomplish these goals.

**1.2 Increasing Bar's Social Media Presence.** A goal for the year is to increase the Bar's presence on social media.

**1.3 Wipfli Review.** The Commission has hired Wipfli to review the Bar's budget and cost effectiveness.

**1.4 ABA OPC Review.** We are still waiting for the ABA's final report and recommendations.

**1.5 Five-Year Convention Plan.** Dickson Burton will reconvene his Summer Convention review committee in order to develop a five-year plan for the summer convention.

**1.6 Small Firm Membership Services Tour.** Grace Acosta will organize an effort to encourage Commissioners to visit small firms in their districts in order to explain what the Bar and the Commissioners do.

**1.7 Bar Committee Succession Planning.** John Bradley and Katie Woods will develop a policy that will lead to more turnover on Bar committees. Liisa Hancock will coordinate the efforts of the Leadership Academy to get new lawyers involved in committees.

**1.8 UMBA Diversity Initiative.** Rob recommends supporting UMBA's creation of the Center for Legal Inclusion.

**1.9 Pro Bono Commission/onlinejustice.org.** Onlinejustice is a service created by the Georgia Bar as an online resource for pro bono attorneys and public interest advocates providing civil representation throughout Georgia. The service provides law practice management support on pro bono issues, professional liability insurance coverage, free or reduced-cost CLE programs and webinars and training and support for pro bono cases. Kate Conyers will investigate onlinejustice.org to see if a similar service is needed in Utah or if it is duplicative of other services we offer.

**1.10 Past Presidents Committee.** Angelina Tsu will head up the Past Presidents Committee.

**1.11 Unconscious Bias Training in New Lawyer Training Program.** Heather Thuet will lead the effort to incorporate unconscious bias training into the New Lawyer Training Program curriculum.

**1.12 Preserving New Programs.**

**a. Leadership Academy.** Liisa Hancock will report on the Leadership Academy at the September 16, 2016 Commission meeting regarding the curriculum, selection process, the current membership and leadership track.

**b. Breakfast of Champions.** Michelle Mumford will organize breakfast and mentoring awards.

**c. Bar Review.** Jenifer Tomchak will organize the every-other-month Bar Review socials.

**d. 50 Year Pins.** Herm Olsen will head up the 50 year pin project.

## **2. Action Items**

**2.1 Nonprofit Legal Services Support.** Open Legal Services asked to be listed on the Bar's annual licensing form as one of the legal services organizations to which members can make voluntary donations during the licensing process. **Dickson Burton moved that Bar staff draft a policy establishing guidelines for which types of organizations can be on the licensing form before the Commission adds any other organizations. Grace Acosta seconded the motion which passed unopposed.**

**2.2 Approve Committee Chairs.** Kaye Conyers moved to approve the 2016-2017 Committee Chairs. Mary Kaye Griffin seconded the motion which passed unopposed.

**2.3 Approve Commission Liaisons. John Lund moved to approve the 2016-2017 Commission Liaisons. Grace Acosta seconded the motion which passed unopposed.**

**2.4 Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Program.** James Ishida updated the Commission on the status of the development of the rules for licensing Paralegal Practitioners. After Mr. Ishida's presentation, **Grace Acosta moved that LPPs be allowed to participate in Blomquist Hale, Lawyers Helping Lawyers and be on a Bar sponsored referral service. Heather Farnsworth seconded the motion which passed unopposed.** The issue of contingency fees was tabled until a later date.

**2.5 Seed Funding for Utah Center for Legal Inclusion. Kate Conyers moved to approve a one-time donation of \$1500 in seed funding for the Utah Center for Legal Inclusion. Dickson Burton seconded the motion which passed unopposed.**

**2.6 Letter to Senate Encouraging Action on Judicial Vacancies.** Herm Olsen moved to approve the proposed letter to Utah's two Senators with an added sentence asking them to take action on filling federal judicial vacancies. **Dickson Burton seconded the motion which passed with Michelle Mumford opposed. Liisa Hancock recused herself from the vote.**

**2.7 Appointment of ABA Delegate for 2016-2018 Term. John Lund moved to appoint Nate Alder as the Bar Commission's ABA Delegate for the 2016-2018 term. Herm Olsen seconded the motion which passed unopposed. Mary Kay Griffin recused herself from the vote.**

### **3. Discussion Items**

**3.1 Member Centric Website ("LawHub").** Lincoln Mead presented on a New York State Bar Initiative called LawHub. LawHub is a one-stop-shopping program for members to login and see all licensing and practice tools within "cards" on the webpage. The cost and other details of the program are not available, but Lincoln and the committee headed by John Lund and Cara Tangaro will continue to investigate the option.

**3.2 Increasing Bar's Social Media Presence.** Sean Toomey reported on his planned efforts to increase the Bar's presence on social media.

**3.3 Access to Justice Council.** Rob hopes to form a council of all committees and groups working on access to justice issues so they can get together to update and share ideas.

### **4. Information Items**

**4.1. ABA Delegate's Report.** Margaret Plane reported that the ABA Standing Committee on Ethics and Professionalism passed a resolution amending Rule 8.4 to add stronger anti-discrimination language. The Commission then discussed how to go about amending Utah Rule 8.4 to add the stronger language. Usually changes to the Rules of Professional Conduct go through the Supreme Court Committee on the Rules of Professional Conduct.

**4.2 Judicial Performance Evaluation Commission.** JPEC Executive Director Jennifer Yim reported on the need for JPEC to boost the number of completed surveys. The Commission discussed possible ways to boost attorney participation in the judicial survey process.

**5. Executive Session.**

**The meeting adjourned at 4:33 pm.**

**Consent Agenda**

- 1. Approve Minutes from the July 6, 2016 Commission Meeting.**
- 2. Appointment of Adam Richards to Judicial Council Technology Committee.**
- 3. Approve Amendments to Environmental Law Section Bylaws.**

**Handouts:**

- 1. External Media Campaign Budget Proposals.**
- 2. Summary of 2015 Futures Commission Report Recommendations.**