

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

JANUARY 18, 2019

LAW AND JUSTICE CENTER

- In Attendance:** President H. Dickson Burton and President-elect Herm Olsen.
Commissioners: Grace Acosta, Steven Burt, Heather Farnsworth, Mary Kay Griffin, Chrystal Mancuso-Smith, Mark Morris, Mark Pugsley, Tom Seiler, and Heather Thuet.
- Ex-Officio Members:** Dean Robert Adler, Nate Alder, Erik Christiansen, Jiro Johnson, Bebe Vanek, and Lorraine Wardle.
- Not in Attendance:** John Bradley, Cara Tangaro and Katie Woods. Ex-Officio Members: Amy Fowler, John Lund, Margaret Plane, Robert Rice, Dean Gordon Smith and Sarah Starkey.
- Also in Attendance:** Executive Director John C. Baldwin, Assistant Executive Director Richard Dibblee, and General Counsel Elizabeth A. Wright.

Minutes: 9:05 a.m. start

1. President's Report: H. Dickson Burton

- 1.1 Review Breakfast Meeting with Large Firms.** Dickson reported on the breakfast with large firm leaders. Topics included the legislative session and the proposed professional services tax. Justice Petersen reported to the group on the work of the Supreme Court Committee on Well-being.
- 1.2 Review Supreme Court Well-being Task Force Report.** Dickson reported that the Task Force is very close to finishing its report and recommendations. The Task Force would like to conduct a study of Utah lawyers, judges and law students to obtain a baseline on lawyer well-being so the Task Force implementations can be measured.
- 1.3 Review Legislative Phone Conference Calendar.** John Baldwin reminded the Commission of the weekly phone meetings during the legislative session. Meetings are at 4:00 p.m. each Tuesday during the legislative session.
- 1.4 Spring Convention Report: Herm Olsen** reported on the highlights of the Convention and reminded Commissioners to register and make room reservations.
- 1.5 St. George and Park City Room Reservation Reminder**

1.6 Bar Elections Information. John Baldwin reminded the Commissioners that lawyers interested in running for Bar Commissioner must submit petitions by February 1, 2019.

1.7 Report on 3rd District Judicial Nominating Commission Vacancies. John Baldwin notified Commissioners that the Bar Commission must nominate six lawyers for the 3rd District Judicial Nominating Commission at the March meeting. The Nominating Commission reviews applications for judicial vacancies and makes recommendations to the Governor. Bar Commissioners were asked to reach out to qualified individuals to encourage them to apply.

2. Action Items

2.1 Nominate Bar President-elect Candidates. Herm Olsen nominated Heather Farnsworth to run for President Elect. Grace Acosta seconded the motion which passed unopposed.

2.2 Select Dorathy Merrill Brothers Award Recipient. After discussing the recommendation of the Awards Committee, Grace Acosta moved to award Jacey Skinner the Dorathy Merrill Brothers Award for the Advancement of Women in the Legal Profession. Mark Morris seconded the motion which passed unopposed.

2.3 Select Raymond S. Uno Award Recipient. After discussing the recommendation of the Awards Committee, Grace Acosta moved to award Yvette Donosso the Raymond S. Uno Award for the Advancement of Minorities in the Legal Profession. Heather Thuet seconded the motion which passed unopposed.

2.4 Public Representation on Bar Commission Report. Erik Christiansen reported on behalf of the Committee. The Committee recommends not adding public members to the Board at this time because there is not demand from members or the public and Utah is distinguishable from bars that have more public members. The Commission then discussed public members generally, their purpose and tremendous value. The discussion was tabled for a later meeting.

2.5 Request to Fund Supreme Court Well-being Study. The Supreme Court Task Force on Lawyer Well-being would like to hire an epidemiologist from the University of Utah to conduct a study of lawyer well-being in Utah. The study results will provide a baseline of well-being so the Committee's implementations can be measured going forward. The Task asked the Bar to fund the study. **Herm Olsen moved to provide up to \$10,000 to fund the study. Tom Seiler seconded the motion which passed unopposed.**

2.6 Bar Member Survey Committee Report. Mark Morris reported that he has been tasked with overseeing a survey of bar members. The survey will be similar to survey conducted in 2010 and will obtain important information about bar members. Mark Morris will create a committee to oversee the selection of a survey organization. Mark

Morris was asked to propose budget numbers for the survey at the March Commission meeting.

3. Information Items

3.1 Licensed Lawyer Marketing Report. Communications Director Matt Page reported to the Commission on the promotion of Licensed Lawyer.

3.3 Innovation in Law Practice Committee. Heather White reported that the Technology and Innovation Committee recommended that Utah lawyers be required to earn 2 hours of technology-related CLE credits every two years. **After discussion of the recommendation, Mark Morris moved to ask the Court to require 2 hours of technology-related CLE credits every two years. Mark Pugsley seconded the motion which passed unopposed.**

4. **“Open Mic Time.”** Steve Burt noted that it is still difficult to navigate the Bar’s website. Nate Alder asked people to speak to him if they are interested in serving on an ABA Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Consent Agenda

1. Approved Minutes from the December 14, 2018 Commission Meeting.

Handouts:

1. List of lawyer legislators.
2. Dorathy Merrill Brothers Award nominees and letters of recommendation.
3. Raymond S. Uno Award nominees and letters of recommendation.
4. Report and Recommendations from the Committee to study public members on Board.