

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

JANUARY 24, 2020

LAW AND JUSTICE CENTER

In Attendance: President Herm Olsen and President-elect Heather Farnsworth.
Commissioners: John Bradley, Steven Burt, Mary Kay Griffin, Chrystal Mancusco-Smith, Marty Moore, Mark Morris, Mark Pugsley, Michelle Quist, Tom Seiler, Cara Tangaro, Heather Thuet and Katie Woods.

Ex-Officio Members: Nate Alder, H. Dickson Burton, Erik Christiansen, Kate Conyers, Torie Finlinson, Candace Gleed, Jiro Johnson, Margaret Plane, and Dean Elizabeth Kronk Warner.

Not in Attendance: Ex-Officio Members: Amy Fowler, Robert Rice, Camila Moreno, and Dean Gordon Smith.

Also in Attendance: Executive Director John C. Baldwin, Assistant Executive Director Richard Dibblee, General Counsel Elizabeth A. Wright, and Supreme Court Liaison Larissa Lee.

Minutes: 9:08 a.m. start

1. President's Report: Herm Olsen

Herm Olsen informed the Commission that Dickson Burton will be serving an 18-month ecclesiastical mission in Mexico City and therefore not finishing his last few months on the Commission as an Ex-officio member. Mr. Olsen and the Commission thanked Mr. Burton for his 10 years of service on the Commission.

1.1 Review Legislative Phone Conference Calendar. Commissioners were reminded of the legislative session conference call that takes place every Tuesday at 4:00 p.m. during the legislative session.

1.2 Spring Convention Report: Heather Farnsworth. Heather Farnsworth gave an overview and highlights of the Spring Convention that will take place March 12-14 in St. George, Utah.

1.3 St. George and Park City Room Reservations Reminder. Commissioners were reminded to make room reservations for the Spring and Summer Conventions.

1.4 3rd Division Bar Elections Reminder & Ballot Language. Cara Tangaro, whose term ends July 2020, announced that she will not seek another term. Heather Farnsworth's

Commission seat is open because she will become Bar President. Mark Morris will seek another term. This means that this Spring there will be an election for two vacant Commission seats and Mr. Morris' seat.

The Commission discussed the fact that a vote for one candidate means the other two individuals on the ballot are deprived of a vote and whether lawyers were aware of this fact. **Mark Marris moved to add language to the 2020 ballot that informs lawyers that a vote for fewer than three individuals adds more weight to the vote or votes cast. Marty Moore seconded the motion which passed unopposed.**

2. Action Items.

- 2.1 Nominate Bar President-elect Candidates.** Commissioner Heather Thuet sent notice expressing her interest in being nominated to run for the office of Bar President-elect. Bar member Andrew Morse sent a letter to the Commission indicating his interest in being considered to run for Bar President-elect. Andrew Morse was not able to attend the meeting in person or by phone and therefore at Herm Olsen's suggestion submitted a video presentation expressing his interest and qualifications. His law partner, Heather White, appeared to answer questions on Mr. Morse's behalf. The Commission asked questions of Ms. White, discussed the nomination process, the qualifications for the position, and the fact that open Commission seats in the 3rd District provide an opportunity for those interested in serving on the Commission. After discussion, the Commission voted by ballot not to exercise their discretion to nominate Andrew Morse to run for President-elect. **Michelle Quist then moved to nominate Heather Thuet to run for Bar President-elect. Tom Seiler seconded the motion which passed unopposed.**

OUT OF ORDER

3.1 Regulatory Reform Committee Report: Erik Christiansen. Co-Chair of the Bar's Regulatory Reform Committee Judge Willmore joined the Commission for a discussion on the status of Regulatory Reform. Herm Olsen reported that in response to a request from the Bar for an extended comment period, the Utah Supreme Court agreed to extend the comment period for regulatory reform rules from 45 days to 90 days. The Commission discussed the need of keeping members informed of the proposed regulatory reform changes and different strategies to keep lawyers informed and engaged.

- 2.2 Select Dorathy Merrill Brothers Award Recipients.** After discussing the nominees and the recommendation of the Awards Committee, **Marty Moore moved to award Jenifer Tomchak the Dorathy Merrill Brothers Award for the Advancement of Women in the Legal Profession. Cara Tangaro seconded the motion which passed unopposed.**
- 2.3 Select Raymond Uno Award Recipient.** After discussing the nominees and the recommendation of the Awards Committee, **Marty Moore moved to award Melinda Bowen the Raymond Uno Award for the Advancement of Minorities in the Legal**

Profession. Chrystal Mancusco-Smith seconded the motion which passed unopposed.

2.4 Approve YLD Membership to be “10 years after Admission.” Young Lawyers Division Representative Torie Finlinson asked the Commission to approve changes to the membership requires for the YLD. The changes proposed by the YLD Board mirror recent ABA changes for its YLD membership eligibility and better reflect current new lawyer demographics. **Heather Thuet moved to change YLD membership requirements to lawyers under 36 years of age or 10 years or less from first bar admission. Michelle Quist seconded the motion which passed unopposed.**

3. Information Items.

3.1 Regulatory Reform Committee Report: Erik Christiansen. See above.

3.2 Bar Member Survey Committee Report: Mark Morris. Mr. Morris reported that the survey is complete and will go to 100 random lawyers as a test. If there are no kinks, the survey will go out to all members in early March. Lawyers will be offered a chance to win a \$50 Amazon gift cards as an incentive to complete the survey. The goal is to present preliminary results at the Spring Convention in March.

3.3 Review New Access to Justice Commission Website. John Baldwin introduced new Bar employees Scotti Hill, Rob Jepson, Mackensie Hirai and Jeff Daybell. Rob Jepson then demonstrated the new Utah Legal Help website. The Access to Justice Commission developed the website for consumers looking for free legal help all over the state.

4. Executive Session.

The meeting adjourned for the day at 1:10 p.m.

Consent Agenda

1. Approved Minutes from the December 20, 2019 Commission Meeting.

Handouts:

1. Spring Convention Brochure.