

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

SEPTEMBER 16, 2016

LAW AND JUSTICE CENTER

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, Julie Emery, Jaelynn Jenkins, Michelle Kennedy, Dean Gordon Smith, Noella Sudbury, Chris Wharton and Supreme Court Liaison James Ishida.

Not in Attendance: Cara Tangaro; **Ex-Officio Members:** Nate Alder; Amy Fowler, Margaret Plane and Angelina Tsu

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

Minutes: 9:10 a.m. start

1. President's Report: Rob Rice

1.1 Discussion on Mark Britton Presentation. Rob highlighted points made by Britton at the Commission retreat in August.

1.2 AAA Task Force Report

The AAA Task Force is the execution arm of the Futures Commission. Rob reported that licensedlawyer.org is moving along nicely. He also reported that the Courthouse Steps program has had some difficulty getting clients to show up. The Pro Bono Commission is working on strategies to get the clients there with things like follow-up calls and reminders.

1.3 Commission Policy on CLE Comps

Rob reminded Commissioners that they are comped for Bar CLE events but not CLEs given by sections.

2. Discussion Items

2.1 Social Media Presence Follow-up: Sean Toomey. A goal for the year is to increase the Bar's presence on social media. The point of the goal is to improve communications

with members in an effort to get members involved in Bar events. Goal is also to improve communication with public and inform them about the good things the Bar does.

- 2.2 Member Centric Website.** John Lund and Cara Tangaro are heading up a working committee to investigate possible ways to make the Bar's website easier to navigate. The committee is currently examining if a new website is economically possible or if it would be cheaper and possible to modify the current website. **Grace Acosta moved to have the working committee request proposals for bids of up to \$2500 for an organization to analyze the Bar's current website and make recommendations on how to make it more user friendly and to provide information on the cost of making changes to the website. Michelle Mumford seconded the motion which passed unopposed.**
- 2.3 Small Firm Membership Services Tour.** Grace Acosta is organizing a tour of 5-15 member firms that will include a lunch with CLE credit.
- 2.4 Bar Committee Succession Planning.** John Bradley and Katie Woods reported that they spoke to various committee chairs about turn over on committees and the idea of term limits. All reported that they do not want a formal policy because most members cycle off naturally. Additionally, it is difficult to fill vacancies on committees and good volunteers who will do the difficult work should not be mandated to leave. The Commission then discussed the need for long-term committee chairs to have a co-chair who would be prepared to step in and fill the role of chair. John and Katie will draft a proposed leadership planning policy to be presented at the next meeting.
- 2.5 Pro Bono Commission/freelegalanswers.org: Kate Conyers.** Freelegalanswers.org is an ABA website through which volunteer lawyers can answer legal questions submitted by individuals who need free legal advice. ABA covers the cost and pays the mal practice insurance for participating lawyers. The ABA is hiring a staff member to administer the program. Tennessee has been using the program very successfully. Kate will email the Pro Bono Commission and ask them to adopt the use of this free cite.
- 2.6 Leadership Academy.** Liisa Hancock distributed a description of the application process, goals, a sample application and a draft calendar for the 2017 class. Her goal is to have the information available on the Bar website. The Academy board members are currently planning the graduation celebration for last year's class.
- 2.7 50 Year Pins: Herm Olsen.** Herm reported that he has ideas for ways to recognize lawyers who have been admitted for 50 years. Recognition might be at Bar conventions or through local bars.
- 2.8 ABA Proposed Rule 8.4(g).** Discussion tabled until next meeting.
- 2.9 Rural CLE report: Katie Woods.** Katie reported that the courthouses are still working on the logistics of holding CLE presentations in the buildings. James Ishida proposed

doing a test run CLE to the St. George Courthouse in order to work out the bugs before conducting the programs in other courthouses.

2.10 Licensedlawyer.org Promotion. Sean Toomey. Sean Toomey presented a budget of \$18,000 to promote licensedlawyer.org over the next year. **Dickson Burton moved that the Commission accept the proposed budget. Heather Farnsworth seconded the motion which passed unopposed.**

2.11 Access to Justice Council. Rob Reported that the AAA Task Force is heading up an effort to get all the different organizations that provide access to justice services together for an annual lunch.

2.12 Increased Judicial Case Management and Simplification of Court Processes.
Discussion Tabled until a later meeting.

3. Action Items

3.1 Bar Services to Non-Profits Policy: Elizabeth Wright. Elizabeth presented a proposed policy describing the requirements and procedures for including non-profit organizations on the licensing form to which lawyers can voluntarily make a charitable donation during the licensing process. **Heather Farnsworth moved that the Commission adopt the policy. Cara Tangaro seconded the motion which passed unopposed.**

4. Information Items

4.1. Mobile lawyer Program: Grace Acosta. Grace presented an idea to have a mobile legal advice program that would piggy back on the State Library Bookmobile/Mobile Library Program. Mobile libraries travel to rural areas of the state on a very organized and publicized schedule and are large enough for a lawyer to have a place to meet with individuals. Grace will continue to investigate the idea and report to the Commission.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 pm.

Consent Agenda

- 1. Approve Minutes from the August 26, 2016 Commission Meeting.**
- 2. Approve Policy Change to Permit Inactive Lawyers to Serve on Committees.**
- 3. Formalize Policy on Back Fees Paid by Inactive Lawyers Who Wish to Activate License.**

Handouts:

- 1. External Media Campaign Budget Proposals.**
- 2. Leadership Academy Handouts.** Description of the application process, goals, a sample application and a draft calendar for the 2017 class.