

## **2007 PSWALSB Business Meeting Minutes**

**Saturday, February 24, 2007**

**Hilton Hotel, Palm Springs, California**

**2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

### **Attendance:**

(in approximate order around the table)

Mary Jane Dundas

Richard F. Sperling

Linda L. Barkacs

Kathleen A. Lacey

Marsha Cooper

Ian Maitland

Kim Greenhalgh

Leonard Rymza

Carol Docan

Eric Yordy

Brian Keliher

Arthur Gross-Schaefer

Charles H. Smith

T. Leigh Anenson

Craig Barkacs

Adam J. Sulkowski

### **I. Call to Order and Welcome**

Craig Barkacs, President

Craig Barkacs welcomed everyone and expressed the hope that we are all planning on return next year with one colleague who has not previously attended a PSWALSB meeting.

### **II. Review of February 2006 Business Meeting Minutes**

Last February's minutes were reviewed. No one suggested any edits or changes.

### **III. Official Business**

#### **A. Program Chair (Leigh Anenson):**

T. Leigh read attendance data on this year's conference:

42 registered attendees (prior to the conference)

30 presentations (with 38 presenters)

45 attendees/guests for dinner banquet

Craig Barkacs commented on the data:

- 2007 attendance was comparable with attendance in past years, but in past years, attendance was boosted by the attendance of national officers.

- therefore, the 2007 conference's attendance was one of the highest in the history of PSWALSB.

Kathleen Lacey next commented on plans for next year:

- the 2008 national ALSB conference will be in Long Beach.

B. Treasurer's Report (Adam Sulkowski)

Adam Sulkowski read the 2007 PSWALSB Treasurer's Report.

C. PSWALSB Delegate Report (Adam Sulkowski)

At this point, all present introduced themselves and attendance was taken.

Adam Sulkowski recounted the highlights of the ALSB national House of Delegates meeting. This included reviewing a few changes to the ALSB constitution, including the fact that HoD delegates are now advised to serve for three years. An explanation of the functions of the HoD was also recounted (namely, to serve as a conduit for ALSB membership concerns and to serve an advisory function in relation to the executive officers). Information about the American Business Law Journal and data on ALSB membership and conference attendance trends was also shared. Participation in ALSB annual conferences and publications was encouraged.

There was a discussion of introducing tracks (to the panels and awards) at the next PSWALSB conference:

- Seniors
- Junior
- Part-timers

D. *Journal of Law & Business* Update (EIC Willis Hagen in absentia):

The journal has been approved for listing in the next edition (11<sup>th</sup>) of *Cabell's*. Volume 13 (2006) has been filed with the Library of Congress and copies are available at the conference to members. Reviewers are needed (sign-up sheet available with Leigh Anenson).

In absentia, Willis W. Hagen's update on the *Journal of Law & Business* was read by T. Leigh Anenson and Adam Sulkowski. Submissions to the journal were encouraged.

Arthur Gross-Schaefer suggested that a certificate of appreciation be issued to Willis W. Hagen for his work on the journal.

E. Website Update (Linda Barkacs)

Linda Barkacs announced updates about the website:

- www.PSWALSB.com is the new domain name.
- compensation to the site designer was \$350 out of the \$500 allotted last year.
- this paid for the domain with \$150 and photo uploading.

- an additional amount of discretionary spending was agreed to, in case additional improvements to the website were deemed necessary in the coming year, and for renewing the website domain name.

#### **IV. Election of Officers for the 2007-2008 Business Cycle**

Nominations were made:

- Leigh nominated Eric Yordy as next year's Treasurer.
- Mary Dundas seconded the motion.
- There was a unanimous vote to make Eric Yordy the 2007 PSWALSB Treasurer.

Arthur asked if it was true that Kathleen Lacey is the permanent Executive Secretary – all confirmed that Kathleen still is. Arthur explained that his light-hearted ulterior motive was to establish that Kathleen has to file the annual paperwork with the state of California.

A motion was made to follow the usual officer rotation, with T. Leigh Anenson becoming the 2007 PSWALSB President and Adam Sulkowski becoming the 2007 PSWALSB Vice President and Conference Chair for February 2008. The motion was seconded and passed by unanimous vote.

Mary Dundas next proposed that we follow the House of Delegates suggestion to extend the national ALSB delegate term from 2 to 3 years, and to raise the travel expense allowance proportionately, from \$500 to \$750. The motion was seconded and passed.

#### **V. New Business**

##### **A. Vice President of the ALSB Kathleen Lacey**

Kathleen Lacey relayed information about the 2007 and 2008 conferences:

August 12-17, 2008 the conference will be at the Westin Long Beach, with very reasonable rates for a great location featuring ocean views and walkways.

Indianapolis dates for the 2007 ALSB conference have been modified to August 11-14, 2007 Kathleen made sure everyone was aware. The Executive Committee of the ALSB and Dan Herron have decided to stay with Blackwell publishers for the ABLJ. Lucien Dhooge was elected to national office as Secretary/Treasurer and is editor-in-chief of the ABLJ. ALSB will make a profit. CLE is available from the national meeting.

##### **B. 2008 PSWALSB Conference site**

T. Leigh Anenson described her research of Las Vegas as a possible option for the 2008 PSWALSB conference. Although facilities are free and the room rates are the same as the Hilton Palm Springs, Leigh found the food and beverage fee to be significantly higher at \$8000 (rather than the \$5,000 or so typically charged by the Hilton). Given these facts,

everyone agreed with Leigh that future PSWALSB meetings are probably better to keep in Palm Springs.

Arthur Gross-Schaefer suggested that we negotiate a three year contract with the Palm Springs Hilton.

T. Leigh Anenson mentioned her one concern about the Hilton is that even after setting dates, there were months of delays and unkept verbal promises before she could secure a written contract from the Palm Springs Hilton. Otherwise, they were very friendly and accommodating.

Arthur Gross-Schaefer mentioned a boilerplate agreement that he could offer (from his work in establishing a three-year contract with the Hilton for his rabbinical organization).

### C. Items from the membership

Before commencing the discussion of items from the membership, Craig proposed that those present vote on the question of whether the PSWALSB is the #1 academic regional conference. The vote was unanimous. The precise wording agreed upon is that PSWALSB's annual conference will be promoted as follows:

“Voted the #1 Academic Regional Conference of the ALSB in the Nation”

Arthur Gross-Schaefer offered to bring a projector to future meetings [presumed to be an RGB projector that allows for projecting PowerPoint slides from a laptop].

It was mentioned that we need to make sure that there are no stipulations in the Hilton contract regarding AV. There may be a restriction.

It was discussed that Kathleen, Craig and Linda already have the burden of storing and bringing wine glasses, 2 screens and 2 projectors every year.

Arthur Gross-Schaefer proposed a nominal amount be spent on a gift of appreciation to the Executive Secretary for her trouble in bringing the projectors and screens every year. The precise motion involved purchasing a bottle of wine every year for Kathleen. Kathleen is to select the wine and submit her receipt for reimbursement. The motion passed unanimously.

It was mentioned by someone to be certain that we reserve the right conference rooms for next year.

Leonard Rymsza proposed making a list of past presidents of PSWALSB. Anyone with any information to add to the list below is welcomed to send such information to Adam Sulkowski ([asulkowski@umassd.edu](mailto:asulkowski@umassd.edu)), including names and the year in which someone was in the position of president.

A list was started, including the following names (please forgive any mistakes).

Arthur

Mary

Linda Barkacs

Kathleen  
1980 Carol Docan  
Kim Greenhalgh  
Melanie Williams  
Barbara George  
Linnea?

Arthur Gross-Schaefer next mentioned an offer from Prentice Hall to co-sponsor or sponsor the PSWALSB conference next year.

Craig Barkacs noted that Thomson/West took the executive committee to dinner on the first night, and sponsored lunch, plus sponsored the event for \$500, and funds the international section of ALSB. Craig suggested that we be careful not to alienate West.

Brian Keliher suggested that we ask what West would be willing to pay for having an exclusive presence at the PSWALSB conference. The same could be asked of McGraw Hill.

Someone suggested that we ask Dan Herron about how he handles such issues.

Someone also pointed out that we may end up with more sponsorship dollars by allowing more sponsors (instead of selling exclusivity rights).

Someone asked whether, if multiple sponsors are accepted, we will need more space. Would we have room for two sponsors? Three?

There was a motion and a unanimous vote for the conference chair to have discretion in negotiating with and arranging for sponsors.

There was a motion and a unanimous vote in favor of thanking West for their sponsorship.

Craig asked whether there were any more motions. There were none.

## **VI. Concluding Remarks (Craig Barkacs)**

Craig adjourned the meeting at 3:34pm, PST.