

SCWLA Board Meeting Minutes
February 15, 2018
Conference Call Meeting

Members attending: Allyce Bailey, Emily Boatright, Molly Cherry, Amie Clifford, Ashley Cuttino, Julie Moose, Nancy Olah, Bhumi Patel, Sima Patel, Laura Paton, Mary Beth Pfister, Richele Taylor, Sheila Willis

Members absent, excused: Mary LaFave, Kristen Nichols, Ayesha Washington,

Members absent, unexcused: Margie Pizarro, Marguerite Willis, Liz Zeck

I. Call to Order

President Sheila Willis called the meeting to order at 12:01p.m.

II. Roll Call

Executive Director took attendance via roll call.

III. Recognition

President Willis recognized Laura Paton for receiving an award from SC Lawyer Magazine, Amie Clifford for her help with conference planning, Mary LaFave for her help creating marketing materials for the organization and the conference, and Marguerite Willis for announcing her candidacy for governor. Laura Paton recognized Mary Beth Pfister for helping draft the endorsement policy for the POWER committee.

IV. President's Report

President Willis reported that she attended an event in the Old English region and will be going to the Grand Strand region in March. She also participated in a call for NCWBA members in the Southeast region of the US. She further reported the conference planning committee has finalized the contract with the hotel and that a Judicial Task Force is being created as an ad hoc subcommittee of the POWER committee, which will be led by Barbara Seymour. The work of the task force is expected to span more than one year, and Amie Clifford will support its ongoing work as President in 2019. Committee signups were solicited in January and volunteer names have been shared with the committee chairs, who are reminded to please reach out to those interested in serving on their committee.

V. Approval of Minutes

Mary Beth Pfister, on behalf of Secretary Ayesha Washington, called for any corrections to the minutes from the board meetings of 1/9/18 and 1/12/18. The only change suggested for the 1/9 minutes was to separate out the executive session portion of the meeting. The only change suggested for the 1/12 minutes was to reflect the meeting was an in-person meeting in Columbia. With those changes, there was a motion and a second to approve both sets of minutes, and the motion carried.

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VI. Treasurer's Report

Mary Beth Pfister gave the report and answered questions, along with the Executive Director. The uncategorized asset of -\$12,488.85 is a QuickBooks error and will be moved to the appropriate bank account. The \$20,825 deposit on January 17 was from the SC Bar. The expense for obtaining documents from the SC Secretary of State will be moved to the category for executive planning.

VII. Executive Director's Report

Director Lindler reported we have 856 active members who paid dues through the SC Bar, plus 22 members who paid dues through PayPal, for a total of 878 current active members. As soon as she has the full information on all members from the SC Bar, she will send to each Regional Representative the list of active members in their region. She has been working with the Treasurer on transitioning the financial account access to the new officers, closing the BB&T account, and transitioning those funds to the appropriate Wells Fargo accounts. She also has been working with the Membership Committee chair on marketing materials for the organization and the conference.

VIII. Committee Reports

Reports were submitted in advance by the Finance Committee, Old English Region and Midlands Region. No other reports were given orally.

IX. Old Business

President Willis explained that, as the bylaws now require that proposed changes be posted on the website and the meeting at which changes will be voted on announced in advance, no bylaws were voted on at this meeting. Pending changes will be posted on the website and the next meeting announced, and pending changes can then be voted on at the next meeting. Bylaws Committee Chair Julie Moose will prepare and circulate any proposed amendments before the next meeting.

She also announced that the next board meeting would involve reporting on progress made towards implementing the goals of the Strategic Plan.

X. New Business

One action item proposed by the Finance Committee in its report was to approve the draft sponsorship policy circulated prior to the meeting. Amie Clifford described how and why that policy was developed. A motion was made and seconded and passed unanimously to adopt the proposed policy.

One action item proposed by the POWER Committee was to approve the draft legislative/judicial endorsement guidelines circulated prior to the meeting. Laura Paton described how and why that policy was developed. One change was suggested, to change State Board President to Association President in two places in the guidelines. With that change, a motion was made and seconded and passed unanimously to adopt the proposed guidelines.

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President Willis announced the Association has the ability to appoint two members to the Board of Directors of South Carolina Legal Services and asked interested individuals to contact her regarding their interest in the position or to suggest someone.

Another new item that arose after the agenda was circulated was a request from the Black Law Students Association at USC to sponsor an upcoming event. President Willis said that request would be considered in accordance with the new sponsorship policy.

XI. Adjournment

All business being concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 12:32 p.m.