

SCWLA Board Meeting Minutes

June 21, 2018

In-Person - Charleston

Board Members attending: *In- person:* Amie Clifford, Sheila Willis, Margie Pizarro, Kristen Nichols, Marguerite Willis, Bhumi Patel; *Via phone:* Laura Paton, Richele Taylor, Allyce Bailey, Mary Beth Pfister.

Board Members absent, excused: Julie Moose, Molly Cherry, Nancy Olah, Ashley Cuttino.

Board Members absent, unexcused: Elizabeth Zeck, Sima Patel

Others in Attendance: Mikki Lindler, Stephanie Nye (via phone)

I. Call to Order

President Sheila Willis called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m.

II. Recognition

President Willis recognized Stephanie Nye and Johanna Valenzuela for their efforts with the Conference and working with JEE. Allyce Bailey was recognized for her work with the Voices Against Violence project. Marguerite Willis was recognized for running a great campaign for Governor. Kristen Nichols was also recognized for hosting and coordinating the lunch for the meeting.

III. President's Report

President Willis attended events in the Upstate and Pee Dee regions. She will be visiting the Midlands and Charleston regions during the summer. She further reported the regions need help with programming and speakers. The goal is to have a database of speakers and/or a portal for speakers to sign-up.

President Willis congratulated those members of SCWLA that received the 2018 Compleat Lawyer Award. President Willis also announced her nomination to the Board of Directors for the National Conference of Women Bar Associations in August.

President Willis reported on the success of the dialogue that took place after RBG Movie screening. The discussion was moderated by Retired Justice Jean Toal.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Secretary Ayesha T. Washington called for any corrections to the minutes from the board meeting of 4/19/18. No corrections were made. Amie Clifford however suggested future minutes reflect the actual language of any Bylaws change. A motion and a second to approve the minutes were made, and the motion carried.

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V. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Mary Beth Pfister called for any questions regarding the Budget versus Actuals and the Balance Sheet Comparison. No questions were raised. Mary Beth noted the line item for the RBG movie screening was a special project. She also noted the Upstate region is very close to their annual budget.

VI. Executive Director's Report

Director Mikki Lindler submitted a written report of activities she engaged in May and June. Those activities included, but was not limited to, her attending the Midlands luncheons for May and June; attending the RBG screening, assisting with May and June newsletters, and assisting with nominations for the Bissell and Emerging Leader Awards. Director Lindler reported that committee reports are being submitted timely and she has had great communications with committee chairs.

VII. Committee Reports

Reports were submitted in advance by the POWER Committee, Finance Committee, Military Committee, Grand Strand Region, Pee Dee Region, and Midlands Region.

2018 Conference Committee

Stephanie Nye of the 2018 Conference Committee submitted a written report. Additionally, she made an oral report. She announced Conference registration went live this past Friday and the agenda for the conference has been listed on the SCWLA website. She also noted activities such as a fun run, yoga, and self-defense have been included on the agenda. Sponsorships are trickling in slowly and the commitments are still under \$10K. Ads for the Conference are ongoing in Lawyers Weekly, Facebook, Instagram and SCWLA newsletters. Board members' efforts with spreading the word and contacting sponsors are critical. President Willis reiterated the importance of sponsorships and the Board's participation in securing sponsors as well as attending the conference.

Recognition was given to Mary Beth Pfister for suggesting we secure print sponsors for conference postcards.

Membership Committee

Mary LaFave reported the committee's focus has been working with the conference committee on marketing. Additionally, the Committee is working to create a pamphlet for membership and assisting Women in Law in coordinating a 5K run.

VIII. Old Business

a. Executive Session

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b. Strategic Plan Presentations

The Regional Activity Committee submitted a written presentation related to Goal 2 Strategy B and C.

New Business

a. S.C. Bar Convention

President Willis initiated a discussion about SCWLA's presence at the 2019 S.C. Bar Convention. Generally, SCWLA purchases a booth at the cost of \$1,950 and Director Lindler mans the booth during the Convention. In addition to the booth expense, SCWLA pays Director Lindler's travel expenses. Total annual costs to SCWLA averages \$2,600 to \$3,000. A discussion was had about the benefits of SCWLA's participation at the Bar Convention. A motion was made to purchase SCWLA ribbons for members attending the Bar Convention in lieu of purchasing a booth. The motion was seconded, and the motion carried.

b. Website Active Member Listing/Inactive Listing

President Willis requested input from the Board as to how to handle members who have not paid dues for the current year on the SCWLA website. There was a discussion about removing members from the website or listing them as inactive members. No action was taken. President Willis will provide information about how the website currently list members who have not paid dues at the next Board meeting.

c. Conference Funding for Regional Representatives

President Willis revisited the discussion from the last Board meeting regarding the Regional Representatives' request for funding their attendance at this year's SCWLA Conference. The Board's final proposal would cover lodging for 3 nights and registration fee. The funds to cover the Regional Representatives' Conference expenses would come from the funds allotted to 2019 Bar Convention with the remaining balance coming from SCWLA's savings account. A motion was made and seconded. The motion carried.

d. Regions/Keep Basecamp?

President Willis discussed the continued use of Basecamp. Basecamp was implemented by Kelly Jolley as a collaborative platform for regional representatives. The cost of the software is \$1K annually. The software can also be used for Board communications. The discussion was tabled until Regional Representatives are polled on the benefits of the software.

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f. Matthew J. Perry Award

President Willis received correspondence about SCWLA creating an award in honor of the late Honorable Matthew J. Perry. After some discussion regarding the number of awards given by the Bar and other organizations in his honor, no action was taken. It was however suggested a compilation of the existing Matthew J. Perry awards given by the Bar be sent in a communication.

g. Membership Retention

President Willis presented a list of membership activities proposed during a recent NCWB Associations regional conference call. Some of the membership activities included member socials, a telephone bank, promotional events, community events, road shows, and collecting dues on a structure. These activities will be passed along to the Membership Committee for consideration.

XI. Adjournment

All business being concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 2:23 p.m.