

Workers' Compensation Section Executive Council Meeting
AGENDA
Joe's Stone Crab-Miami Beach
January 23, 2015
11:30-1:30 pm

I. Presiding: William Rogner, Chair

A. Welcome-Introduction of Guests: Christopher Smith, Past Chair

- Judge David Langham
- Chief Judge Joseph Lewis, Jr.
- Judge James Wolfe
- Judge Clayton Roberts
- Jon S. Wheeler, Clerk of Court First DCA

II. Approval of Minutes of the August 19, 2014 Meeting: Joanne Prescott, Secretary

- Motion to approve minutes passed

III. Treasurer's Report: Alan Kalinoski, Treasurer

- Financially sound. Revenues covered. Augustine assumes Treasurer position in August.
- Revenues: \$133,444.00 budgeted
 \$94,760.00 actual (+71%)
- Expenses: \$122,765.00 budgeted
 \$51,205.00 actual (+42%)
- Total Fund Balance: \$89,475.00 budgeted
 \$126,566.00 actual (+141%)

IV. Committee Reports:

A. Section CLE: Dawn Traverso, Chair

- Several speakers for 'Learn at Lunch' seminars for 2015 have been lined up. Hurley Rogner attorneys and judges so far.
- Winter Retreat will be 2/22-2/26/15 at the Westin in Snowmass
- Next year looking at Utah or another location in Colorado, looking for better prices

B. Legislative Committee: Rick Thompson and Christopher Smith, co-chairs

- Thompson reported no stand alone bills planned from industry. 99% certainty there will special session if there is a change in attorney's fees
- Governor and House pro-business
- Fausto Gomez spoke regarding no activity on work comp front; replace Kevin McCarthy in Dept of Ins....property and casualty gunning to make change; presentation to OIR on health, assignments and depopulation
- Both sides need to compromise

C. News & 440 Report: Jeff Appel, Chair (not present)

- Mike Winer spoke for Jeff. Last issue was distributed last week. Difficulty to get out

- 4 volumes a year, suggestion that it be produced 2 times per year
 - Rogner spoke to the need for articles, and emphasized need for more articles and support; could do special edition if big issues to address
 - Winer made motion to limit 2 editions per year, with option to do special edition
 - Summer/Winter schedule; shoot for June and November
- D. Membership Committee: Tim Dunbrack, Chairperson
- Marketing paying off
 - If there is a major issue to address such as attorney's fees, may send blast to full Bar to entice old members to rejoin, but may be some resistance by others to doing this.
 - Neal Falk spoke to adding judge/student class to Forum to attract law students
- E. Forum Committee: Leo Garcia, Chairperson
- Book went to printer on Wednesday; Garcia thanked all contributors
 - Last year at this time we had 31 registrants. We already have 65 already before we have even started marketing.
 - Lizzette Francisco spoke regarding law firm sponsorships. Last year we had 12 at the time of the Forum. We already have 13 now.
 - Garcia wants us to advertise to our clients.
 - He is encouraged that this may be the top seminar in the state.
 - Next year is the year when there will be a large number of adjusters that have to be recertified.
 - Winer spoke regarding attempting to have live oral argument to the Forum. He and Rogner have had conversations with Clerk Wheeler, and they are encouraging. Winer would like to investigate cost to underwrite this venture.
 - Winer, Chait and Gomez will be subcommittee to investigate
 - Chait thanked First DCA for oral arguments at UM yesterday and their attendance at dinner last night and lunch today
- F. Rules Committee: Mark Touby, Chair
- Members of Advisory Committee: Richard Chait, Rosemary Eure, Paulo Longo, Kevin Murphy, John Brooks, Maryann Stiles, Phil Augustine, Judge Holley
 - Touby commented on the process of establishing new rules. Hope that rules represent all involved in the system. No set schedule for when rules can be addressed so we can have them addressed at any time.
- G. Judiciary Committee: Neal Falk, Chair
- No additional information to report other than above.
- H. Board Certification Committee: Phil Augustine, Chair
- Spoke about role of pretesters
 - 6 passed out of 8 that took it
 - Test in May, grade in June.
 - As there have been concerns by the bar membership about costs of CEU, BLSE in the process of passing initiative that you can get same amount of credit for any class that you are taking
 - Would like to put ad in News & 440 to advertise benefits of board certification
- I. Technology Committee: Richard Manno, Chair
- Website up at flaworkerscomp.org
 - Contact him if any suggestion

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- CLE calendar, minutes, bylaws, section meetings.
 - Suggested that we retain On-Call on a monthly basis to manage and he would administer; \$175 per month, which is in our budget
 - Motion to hire On-Call to manage website. Approved.
- J. Sponsorship & Advertising: Lizzette Francisco and Richard Berman, Co-Chairs
- On track for 13 firm commitments at Forum, we have spot for 15 at least
 - Defense firms and speakers encouraged to sponsor
 - She recommended each of us send them the name of one preferred vendor to her or Berman
 - Advertising Committee has investigated getting advertising banners on our website. Need to figure out how to accomplish this and then get a price list
 - Falk spoke to benefit have having a good balance between vendors and sponsors but not overbearing

V. Chair's Report: Bill Rogner, Chair

- Happy about relationship with judges, wanting more interaction between judges and Bar. He is focused on this and keep pushing to strengthen the relationship
- Trial Advocacy program coming up, encouraged attendance
- Forum is shaping up and numbers are encouraging
- Rick Morales agreed to serve as section liaison on Standing Committee of Diversity and Inclusion

VI. Chair Elect's Report: Mike Winer, Chair-elect

- Will focus on cementing deal to have First DCA attend Forum with live oral argument
- Possible places for 2016 Long Range Meeting include Atlantis, New York

VII. Unfinished business: Bill Rogner, Chair

A. Honorary Membership for Judges of Compensation Claims to section

- Waiting for final approval from the Bar. They meet next week, so we may have an answer then. Over half of our judges are not members.

VIII. New Business: Bill Rogner, Chair

A. Section sponsorship of the work comp conference luncheon so judges do not have to pay.

- There are 2 Inns of Court...Jacksonville and Orlando. The idea is that the 2 Inns can sponsor the luncheon. Judge Langham has approved as it complies with rules. Inns will invite Exec council and judges. Inns can't afford luncheon on their own as it will cost \$5000. Inns asking that Exec Council donate \$2500 to the Inns so that they can fund the luncheon.
- Traverso indicated will have to request approval from the Bar to do this but Rogner says that we have already done that and it was approved
- Money is already budgeted in the judicial luncheon
- Motion made to donate \$2500 to Inns to fund luncheon. Approved.
- Bill Berke asked if at comp convention is there a way to resolve conflict between

FWA meeting and oral argument.

- B. Albertson-Frierson award supposed to be presented at the Forum, however, we did not do that last year and had to present at Convention. Need to open up to nominations now so that we have enough time to get award engraved. Prior award winners will Langston, Thompson, Sicking and Malca. Rogner asking for nominations now and will email us with prior winners
- C. Excused absences-All present.
- D. Thompson spoke regarding opt out system. Eventually we will be on radar.

IX. Upcoming CLE's

- Manno asked that we provide brochures regarding upcoming CLE's.
- Morales asked whether we can purchase past CLE's

X. Future meetings

- 2/22-2/26/15 31st Winter Retreat in Snowmass
- 5/14-5/17/15 Long Range Planning Meeting and Retreat in Austin, TX
 - o Driscoll Hotel-cocktail reception Thursday
 - o Proposed itinerary will be sent out within 2 weeks; 2 tours to be set up
 - o Friday night dinner will be at Roaring Fork

Attendees:

Bill Rogner
Mike Winer
Joanne Prescott
Alan Kalinoski
Paul Anderson
Phil Augustine
Richard Berman
Geoff Bichler
George Cappy
Richard Chait
Karen Cullen
Tim Dunbrack
Neal Falk
Lizzette Francisco
Leo Garcia
Robert Grace
Jeff Jacobs
Martin Leibowitz
Paolo Longo
Richard Manno
Sean McCormack
Rick Morales

Chris Petruccelli
Mike Rudolph
Richard Sicking
Christopher Smith
Bob Strunin
Brian Sutter
Rick Thompson
Mark Touby
Dawn Traverso
Glen Wieland
Bill Berke
Willie Mae Shepherd
Fausto Gomez

Judge David Langham
Chief Judge Joseph Lewis, Jr.
Honorable James Wolfe
Honorable Clayton Roberts
Honorable Jon S. Wheeler

Motion to adjourn approved 1:20pm

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