

MINUTES

April 12, 2019 Executive Council Meeting

Labor and Employment Law Section, The Florida Bar
Wyndham Grand Jupiter at Harbourside Place, Jupiter, FL

Cathleen Scott, Chair
David Adams, Chair-Elect
Robyn Hankins, Legal Education Director
Hon. Alan Forst, Secretary-Treasurer
Zascha Blanco Abbott, Immediate Past Chair*
Angela, Section Administrator

Scott Atwood
David Block*
Deborah Brown*
Hon. Frank Brown
Sherril Colombo*
Sacha Dyson
Robert Eschenfelder
Karen Evans
Yvette Everhart*
Chelsie Flynn*
Kristen Foslid*
Gregory Hearing
Jennifer Fowler-Hermes
Eric Holshouser
Hon. Robert Kilbride*
Leslie Langbein
Brian Lerner
Patrick Martin*
Steve Meck*
Gregg Morton*
Marlene Quintana
Hon. Stephanie Ray*
Cynthia Sass
Bob Turk
Cristina Velez*
Lindsey Wagner

Guests

Lori Adelson
Amanda Biondolino
John Getty
Mike Malfitano
Angeli Murthy
Rhonda Reaves
Erika Deutsch Rotbart*
Steve Senn
Don Slesnick

*Appearing by phone

I. Call to Order

Chair Cathleen Scott called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. Or, maybe it was 5:03 or 5:06, but it was definitely after 5:00 (unless you were in

Pensacola). In any case, a quorum of the Executive Council was present either in person or by telephone. The meeting began with a welcome from the chair to the members and guests. Chair Scott noted that the Section website was being installed and that we would no longer be printing copies of The Checkoff

II. Secretary/Treasurer Report

The January 17, 2019 Minutes were approved (Eschenfelder/Adams motion) with one change (reflecting that Tony Cabassa was co-chair with Marlene Quintana of the Update/Certification Review seminar in January). Judge Forst stated that the Section was doing fine financially (after we vetoed David Adams attempt to purchase a Section yacht).

III. Committee Reports

Chair Scott suggested that the committees and subcommittees tender written reports in advance of the annual meeting. Several committees gave brief reports.

Membership Outreach: Scott Atwood announced that his committee was looking to host happy hours in the coming year (with perhaps a CLE presentation) in Jacksonville, Tallahassee, Tampa and Miami. He was going to use a \$2000 budget from the section for these four receptions, which would be hosted at local law firms. The hope is that each reception would draw about 30 people (if it was 30 people overall for \$2000, that's a lot of cabernet per attendee).

Law School Liaison: Cristina Velez reported that the subcommittee had solicited twenty-five scholarship applications from ten law schools.

Long Range Planning: Bob Turk commented upon the need to get young people engaged in the Section, reflecting back to his joining the Section so long ago that his clients included the Slate Rock and Gravel Company. He was looking into what the Georgia Bar's L&E Section was doing with its L&E mentorship academy.

Legal Education: It was noted that L&E has the lead on planning the annual PELR seminar in the fall.

Special Projects: Hon. Frank Brown remarked that the decision to have a former chair of the Certification Committee speak at the Update seminar was a good idea. He would follow up on this and he also desired having the seminar speakers better informed as to what would be on the certification exam. Chair Scott gave kudos to the co-chairs of the update/certification review seminar, Marlene and Tony (not Karen!).

Wage & Hour: Angeli Murthy announced that Jay Lechner was no longer co-chairing the subcommittee. She noted that the subcommittee intended to update the judicial profile and wanted to put together a CLE panel or seminar and engage in outreach.

Journal: Rob Eschenfelder indicated that he wanted to commence a Journal Article of the Year award, to be announced at the Annual Meeting. He planned to discuss the selection process with Cathleen.

Website: So close Brian Lerner related that the new and improved website was 75 percent complete and would be “rolled out” in June. The Section has a new logo that is featured on the home page (and every other page). He noted that the website contractor was working on ADA compliance issues (always embarrassing when an L&E section is sued for ADA violations). Yvette Everhart is taking the lead on keeping the website current (including soliciting Section meeting minutes). One of the features that Brian likes is the ability of the Section officers and delegates to make updates to the website without going through the vendor. Brian was in touch with the Bar to get back issues of The Checkoff uploaded. Sherrill Colombo inquired whether the Section could host webinars on the website. Brian responded that he didn’t think that was possible, due to Florida Bar oversight of webinars. Cathleen gave a “big” thank you to Brian, Yvette and Judge Ray for their work on the website (laboremploymentlaw.org).

Hall of Fame: Sacha Dyson nominated Thomas Steele. He drafted section 542.35. The motion to induct was moved/seconded by Adams/Eschenfelder and passed without opposition. Bob Turk nominated Russ Hamilton—he practiced L&E for over 40 years and worked with the space shuttle program. A/E made the motion and it passed without opposition. Alan Gerlach, who was a long-time and recent member of the Section EC, was nominated by Steve Meck, moved by A/E and inducted without opposition. Robyn Hankins nominated William (Bill) Radford, who was a long-time management attorney in Miami. A/E once again made the motion, and Mr. Radford was inducted without opposition. Cristina Velez is charged with contacting the families. Frank Brown noted that we need the inductees’ bios and photos for a slideshow at our Section meeting in June.

IV. Odds & Sods:

Don Sleznick noted that the ABA was hosting a Trial Skills Seminar. Nice to know. Lori Adelson announced that the Florida Bar’s ADR Section was joining the L&E Section to co-sponsor a CLE seminar at the annual meeting of the Florida Bar at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, June 28. Scott Atwood announced he was setting up a new practice in Fort Myers. Marlene Quintana announced that the attorneys of Thompson, Sizemore, Gonzalez & Another Guy (Greg Hearing!) were joining GrayRobinson’s Tampa office.

Cathleen reminded committee and subcommittee chairs to prepare written reports for the next EC meeting. She then invited EC members and seminar registrants to attend a Section reception and dinner following the meeting, as well as a cocktail party following the dinner.

V. Adjournment

Someone other than Adams and Eschenfelder moved/seconded to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

VI. Next Executive Council Meeting

Cathleen Scott will return . . . at the next Executive Council Meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, June 27, 2019 at the Florida Bar's annual meeting at the Boca Raton Resort & Club in Boca Raton, FL.