

## **Florida Bar Labor & Employment Law Executive Council Meeting Minutes October 19<sup>th</sup> 2023**

### **Attendance:**

-Gregg Morton, Yvette Everhart, Robert Eschenfelder, David Adams, Ryan Barrack, Deborah C. Brown, Chelsie J. Flynn, Janeia Daniels Ingram, Leslie Weiner Langbein, Linda Bonda Edwards, Christopher Shulman, Peter Caldwell, Donald Slesnick.

-Scott Atwood (webcast), Zascha Abbott (webcast), Frank Brown (webcast), Adam Chotiner (webcast), James Craig (webcast), Alan Forst (webcast), Robyn Hankins (webcast), Richard Johnson (webcast), Alicia Koepke (webcast), Viktoryia Johnson (webcast), Stephen Meck (webcast), Michelle Nadeau (webcast), Cynthia Sass (webcast), Cathleen Scott (webcast), Leslie Reicin Stein (webcast), Robert Turk (webcast), Cristina Velez (webcast), Ashlea Edwards (YLD President-elect, via webcast), James Poindexter (webcast), Benjamin Yormak (webcast), Anisha Patel (in- person, YLD President).

**Call to order and welcome:** Chair Morton opened the meeting at 5 p.m.

**Secretary/Treasurer Report:** Secretary/Treasurer Eschenfelder presented the minutes from the June 2023 meeting. Minutes were adopted without dissent.

Treasurer Eschenfelder noted that the printed financial report indicated a loss of revenue but Program Administrator Baxter indicated that the original report sent with the agenda materials was incorrect. She indicated that the Section made money in the last fiscal year. An accurate report will be provided at the next EC meeting.

**Committee reports:** Bar Journal Section Articles Editor Alicia Koepke indicated that she has a need for articles for the Bar Journal and asked members to solicit potential authors and send them her way. Chair Morton also stressed getting less formal or shorter articles to Checkoff editor Viktoryia Johnson.

Janeia Ingram, co-chair for the PELRF program this year, provided a report on the program, indicating there were just under 70 attendees enrolled. The Chair noted next year will be the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the program and he wants to ensure it will be a memorable one.

**New business:** Chair Morton introduced the subcommittee list and noted that he has revised the Section's committees and subcommittees. Education Director Chelsia Flynn indicated the corporate counsel subcommittee is a difficult committee to have be active due to competing offerings from other organizations.

The Chair discussed the proposed budget for 2024/25. December 15<sup>th</sup> is when the Section's budget is due to be submitted. Treasurer Eschenfelder will confer with Administrator Baxter to ensure the budget is final by then.

The Chair discussed the concept of free/reduced memberships for YLD members and law school affiliates. The Chair indicated that the program would work by having law students fill out a form

indicating interest in Section membership. Anisha Patel, president of YLD joined the meeting and was introduced by the Chair. Ms. Patel indicated that the YLD's mission this year is to give young lawyers everything they need, which she sees as providing mentorship to young lawyers and sees collaboration with other sections as key to this mission. She also introduced the division's virtual summit/conference where young lawyers will have breakout topics on many different topics in the law. Each Bar section will have an ability to present on what that section does so as to help section outreach. Chealse agreed to be the Section's representative at the YLD's virtual summit.

Chair Morton turned the discussion back to the topic of free or reduced memberships to YLD members and law school affiliates. Motion was adopted without opposition to authorize free Section membership to law students, and to all YLD members who agree to serve on a Section committee.

Don Slesnick made the point that you can be a YLD member for many years and so this waiver may be too broad in giving too many free memberships. Cristina Velez made the point that EC members tend to not be YLD eligible, and so the section should do a better job of trying to ensure younger practitioners are in the EC mix.

Chair-Elect Yvette Everhart introduced a call for 2024/25 CLE chairs. She stressed that she wants to see new faces both as the program co-chairs and as speakers. Robert Eschenfelder suggested that section members who are not on the EC and who volunteer to chair a program should be afforded preference for any open seat on the EC.

Scott and Ben offered to co-chair the certification review and update seminar. Robyn Hankins spoke about the upcoming certification review and update CLE for January 2024 and some changes she is making to that program.

Chair Morton turned to the bylaws revision project began last year and discussed the CLE planning process and how it might be able to be reformed to make the Education Director's job easier to perform. He announced that Jim Craig will be assuming chair of the bylaws revision committee so that the project will get across the finish line. The Chair asked EC members to provide Mr. Craig with any feedback prior to the committee's final meeting, expected to be in November, so that the committee can take a final vote and recommend a final version to the full EC for adoption at the next EC meeting.

The Chair discussed the fact that there are many lapsed members (see Attachment E of the agenda materials containing the list). The Chair asked the EC members to review the list and if the member knows of some of the folks on the list, engage in personal outreach to the lapsed member to see if they might be interested in re-joining. Several EC members noted that many names on the list were due to known retirements.

The Chair reported that Sacha Dyson will be working to complete the Past Chair Vlog Project.

The Chair raised the issue that the logo redesign process has been bogged down as the Bar's art staff does not have the time to assist the Section, and so the Chair will look to getting the project completed perhaps without Bar staff assistance.

The chair discussed the existing social media contract and vendor. Janeia Ingram reported that she and social media contractor Lisa Tipton worked hard to get the live attendance we had at this year's annual PELRF. She reviewed social media promotions of the program's speakers. This was a new and innovative way to promote not only the program, but also to give exposure to the speakers who have volunteered their time.

A suggestion was made to remove the online attendance option next year for PELRF as a way to get more live attendance at next year's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary program. Steve Meck spoke and offered to assist with planning any special events of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary PELRF program.

The Chair announced that the effort to utilize Google Drive/Drop Box for EC materials as an alternative to posting on the website is still being worked on as a tool for the EC's business records in the future.

April 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> is Advanced Labor Topics at the Omni in Ashville NC. The chair indicated the room block may need to be increased.

The chair asked for all EC members to think about substantive webinar topics they may want to do and to consult with Education Director Chelsie Flynn by November 15<sup>th</sup> 2023 so she can build a webinar schedule for the 24/25 year.

Meeting adjourned at 6:25.