

SCWLA Board Meeting Minutes

April 19, 2018

In-Person - Columbia

Board Members attending: *In-person:* Molly Cherry, Amie Clifford, Julie Moose, Nancy Olah, Sheila Willis, Margie Pizarro, Richele Taylor; *Via phone:* Allyce Bailey, Bhumi Patel, Laura Paton, Mary Beth Pfister, Ayesha Washington, Kristen Nichols, Mary LaFave.

Board Members absent, excused: Ashley Cuttino

Board Members absent, unexcused: Marguerite Willis, Liz Zeck, Sima Patel

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

I. Call to Order

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

II. Roll Call

President Willis took attendance via roll call.

III. Recognition

President Willis recognized Allyce Bailey for her efforts with coordinating SCWLA's Presentation of the RBG Movie in Columbia. She also recognized the entire 2018 SCWLA Conference Planning Committee for their efforts with the conference in addition to Vera Bailey for her efforts with the Conference Agenda and Mary LaFave for her efforts with marketing the Conference.

IV. President's Report

President Willis reported that she attended events in the Sea Island and Grand Strand regions. She will be going to the Upstate and Pee Dee regions in May. She further reported the results of the meeting with Bob Wells regarding access to the SC Bar's membership list. SCWLA could rent the list for .15 cents per member versus the normal .20 cents per member. One of the terms of the Rental Agreement is SCWLA would only use the list one time and the BAR would have to approve what is being sent out. A decision was made to type the list in Excel based on gender and geography. President Willis solicited help with typing names ending with the letters R and W. Volunteers will be paid \$10 per hour.

President Willis also reported a request was sent to the SCWLA Foundation to make a presentation to the SCWLA Board regarding their financial status at today's meeting. She explained that her review of past Board minutes revealed no history of the Board receiving any financial information from the Foundation since its inception in 2012. Questions regarding the Foundation's financial status arose as a result of President Willis receiving calls from law students about the status of their scholarship funds. President Willis reported she has since confirmed the students have received their scholarship funds.

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President Willis further noted all attempts to contact Liz Zeck, Chair of the Foundation, by phone and email received no response. Therefore, a letter was sent to Liz Zeck in her capacity as Board chair with a request for the Foundation to make a presentation during today's meeting at 12:30 p.m.

At 12:30 p.m., President Willis called for a representative to present on behalf of the Foundation. No one came forward. Julie Moose stated she was a former Foundation Board member and would obtain names of other Board members to provide to the SCWLA Board.

V. Approval of Minutes

Secretary Ayesha Washington called for any corrections to the minutes from the board meeting of 2/15/18. The following corrections were made: 1) to correct the spelling of Olde English region in Items IV and VII; and 2) to change the organization that Laura Paton received an award to SC Lawyer Weekly Magazine. With those changes, there was a motion and a second to approve the minutes, and the motion carried.

VI. Treasurer's Report

Mary Beth Pfister referenced the Budget and Profit and Loss statements submitted electronically and called for questions regarding the statements. No questions were raised. President Willis commended Mary Beth for going paperless with regard to SCWLA's monthly statements.

VII. Executive Director's Report

Director Lindler reported she updated the software system. We have a total of 905 active members. Director Lindler also has 1300 emails of non-members. She will send emails requesting membership renewal after consulting with Mary LaFave.

Director Lindler reminded committee chairpersons to send the "final" version of their reports in PDF format.

VIII. Committee Reports

Reports were submitted in advance by the Finance Committee, Olde English Region, Upstate/Spartanburg Region, Upstate/Greenville Region, Lowcountry Region, Midlands Region, Long Range Planning Committee (as part of the Strategic Plan Presentation), and Military Committee.

2018 Conference Committee

Stephanie Nye of the 2018 Conference Committee made an oral report. The Conference will be held October 19, 2018 through October 21, 2018. The agenda for the conference will include sessions in the morning with open afternoons to allow for family time and networking. Gloria Allred is the keynote speaker and has recorded a video to be circulated for marketing the

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Conference. Other speakers include Deb Sofield, Mary Sharp and Lee Coggiola. JEE has been contracted to carry out the logistics of the Conference. In the upcoming weeks, the committee will be working to secure sponsorships and exhibitors. A list of past sponsors and exhibitors will be circulated to the Board with a request for assistance from those who have personal or professional connections to past sponsors and/or exhibitors. Historically, the Association raises \$40,000 in sponsorships with approximately 7-8 exhibitors. President Willis reiterated the importance of sponsorships as the Conference is a major expense for the Association.

Public Service Committee

President Willis presented a request made by Allyce Bailey of \$150 to support the Domestic Violence Shelter. The funds would be used by the organization to refurbish the shelter and host a social during a three week project. The request was within the committee's budget so Board approval was not required.

IX. Old Business

a. Bylaws Approval

Julie Moose moved to accept the proposed amendment submitted by Amie Clifford that would allow Regional Chapters to select representatives to the Board. Amie Clifford seconded the motion and the motion carried.

b. Strategic Plan Presentations

Presentations were made relating to Goals 1 through 3 with the exception of Strategy B and C under Goal 2. The Regional Activity Committee will be allotted time to present on these strategies at the June meeting.

New Business

a. SCWLA Foundation

A discussion regarding the SCWLA Foundation was had during the President's Report. *See above.*

b. S.C. Bar Leadership Foundation Sponsorship Request

Laura Patton and Kristen Nichols requested \$250 to sponsor the S.C. Bar Leadership's program/luncheon to be held on May 25, 2018 in Charleston. A motion was made to sponsor the event at \$200. The motion was seconded and the motion carried. President Willis abstained from voting due to her position as Co-chair of the program committee for the S.C. Bar Leadership Foundation.

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c. Conference Funding for Regional Representatives

President Willis initiated a discussion regarding the Regional Representatives' request for funding of their attendance at the 2018 SCWLA Conference. The Board did not finalize a proposal that would cover lodging, travel and/or registration fee. The Board, however, authorized President Willis to advise the Regional Representatives that funding will be provided. The details of what will be covered will be specified at later date.

XI. Adjournment

All business being concluded, the meeting was adjourned at 2:38 p.m.