

MINUTES OF THE WOMEN AND THE LAW COUNCIL MEETING
January 22, 2011, Austin, Texas
11:00 a.m.

PRESENT: Carol Jendrzey, Judy Ney, Carolyn Moore, Ralph Brock, Melissa Dorman, Deborah Cordova, Mary Evelyn McNamara.

PARTICIPATING BY TELEPHONE: Patricia Blackshear, Alison Colvin, Tonya Carter Clary, Andrea Johnson.

ABSENT: Mara Blatt, Suzette Patton, Marlene Williams, Carmen Samaniego, Ronnie Harrison, Marissa Helm, Cori Harbour, Yvette Ostolaza.

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m.

- I. Introduction: Carol Jendrzey
Carolyn moved to approve the minutes of the September 2010 meeting. Mary Evelyn seconded the motion, and the minutes were unanimously adopted.
- II. Treasurer's Report: Our current balance is \$22,818.90. No major expenses are anticipated in the near future. Judy Ney moved to approve, and Deborah Cordova seconded the motion. The treasurer's report was unanimously adopted.
- III. Council of Chairs Meeting: Carol Jendrzey reported the results of the Council of Chairs Meeting on January 21, 2011. Regarding the upcoming referendum, we need to emphasize that people should vote. Our section has not taken a position on the referendum.

The State Bar's Computer and Technology Section is offering an application for use with Apple products that contains several rules, codes, and annotations. It is a free app if you are a member of its section. The Computer and Technology Section will offer individuals a rebate of \$10 through April. We will include this information in the newsletter.

The State Bar Foundation reported that budget cuts are having detrimental effects on our pro bono programs. Also, IOLTA accounts are drawing very little interest. Individual contributions are being sought to help offset the losses, which are estimated to be in the tens of millions of dollars.

Kay Perry of the Military Law Section and Law Practice Management Section has offered speakers to various groups.

During the Small Sections Break-Out meeting, it was suggested that membership recruiting efforts can be enhanced by offering freebies with memberships, such as t-shirts, mugs, etc.

Judy Ney announced that there were 18 candidates for the appointment to the open Minority Director position open at the State Bar level. Six were interviewed, and our Deborah Cordova was one of them. The two nominees have been selected and have been submitted to Terry Tottenham, State Bar President.

IV. Committee Reports

A. Membership - Mary Evelyn McNamara

1. Status of Membership: We have 484 members.
2. New Attorney Inductions: There was a table at the New Attorney Induction at the Frank Erwin Center. Interest was high, and about 30 people picked up brochures about our section. The induction ceremony for those who pass the February Bar Exam is May 23, 2011 at the Frank Erwin Center. We will have a table there.
3. Outreach to local women's bar associations: Mary Evelyn has been working on a letter to be sent to local women's bar associations to encourage membership in our Section and to partner with them for presenting the current women's health care issues panel in various cities or other projects.
4. Mary Evelyn will explore costs and procurement of items to hand out at the Annual Meeting as incentives to join our section: coasters, caps, pens, flash drives, and t-shirts.

B. Newsletter - Carolyn Moore

1. Status on January/February publication: There are plenty of articles for the upcoming newsletter. Carolyn would like to get the articles and information to the State Bar by mid-week.
2. Our deadline for submitting articles for the May newsletter will be April 16, 2011.
3. The May newsletter will include the announcement of Ma'at Justice and Sarah T. Hughes Awards.

C. Annual Meeting - Patricia Blackshear: The Annual Meeting is June 23-24, 2011 at the Grand Hyatt in San Antonio. We have requested the time slot on Thursday afternoon from 1:30 to 3 p.m.

1. CLE: We have a title for the CLE: Perspectives of the Changing Roles of Women and Men in the Workplace. We have three

panelists so far: Dean Leah Jackson from Baylor Law; Loretta Cross, managing partner with accounting firm Grant Thornton; and Maureen Cobb, an attorney serving in the Air Force reserves. Carol Jendrzey has talked with the Provost at UTSA about additional speakers. Andrea Johnson has also suggested adding an attorney whose husband cares for their children, and perhaps a judge in San Antonio. Judy Ney informed us that Leslie Lupow will be in charge of the content for the Annual Meeting.

2. Reception: Bexar County Women's Bar will sponsor the reception with us. We'd like to have the reception on site, Thursday evening from 5-7 p.m. Patricia and Carol will follow up with the State Bar to determine the location for the reception. We will invite the women judges from San Antonio to our reception. Carolyn Moore made a motion to sponsor the event with the Bexar County Women's Bar only, and Judy Ney seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.
3. Award Nomination Deadline: We will appoint a committee to coordinate the nominations for the Sarah T. Hughes and Ma'At awards. Our deadline for nominations is March 30, 2011. Patricia has received approximately 30 nominations, in response to the State Bar of Texas e-mail blast requesting nominations. Carol Jendrzey moved that we appoint Andrea Johnson, Patricia Blackshear, Deborah Cordova, and Judy Ney to the committee to coordinate the nominations. Mary Evelyn McNamara moved to approve the motion, and Carolyn Moore seconded the motion. It was unanimously passed.

D. Chronologist - Ronnie Harrison- tabled to next meeting.

E. Website - Tonya Carter: We have new boxes/tabs, including quick link referendum, and Texas Lawyers for Texas Veterans. We should expand it to include a link to our events or newsletter. There have been discussions about going to a password-protected member access to certain portions of the website, like the membership directory. Currently, the Council's e-mail addresses are available on our website.

Tonya suggested adding a Facebook page for the WAL Section. Tonya will talk with the State Bar webmaster, to make sure we comply with State Bar procedures. Deborah Cordova moved that we create the Facebook page, and Judy Ney seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

F. Women and their Health: Five Top Legal Issues Women Need to Know Program - Carol Jendrzey

1. Report on program held in San Antonio: We received one hour of CLE credit for the program at the HSC in San Antonio two weeks ago. About 30 people attended. Nurses, administrators, physicians, and lawyers participated in the program.
2. Another program will be held in March (date TBD) at the UT Health Science Center in Harlingen, Texas. Mary Evelyn will update the letter to detail where the program has been held and information on future venues.
3. Other venues: Possible sites are Lubbock, Dallas, Tyler, and Galveston. The program may be adjusted to include men and women, as the subject matter affects men and women.

V. Miscellaneous: Due to unfavorable flight schedules, Deborah Cordova, Ralph Brock, and Carolyn Moore had to travel to Austin the night before today's meeting. Their hotel expenses were approved.

VI. Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for April 16, 2011 at the State Bar Offices, with a tentative start time of 11 a.m. We will check flight schedules as the date gets closer, and may adjust the start time accordingly.

VII. Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.