

**The West Virginia State Bar
Young Lawyer Section Executive Committee Meeting
Stonewall Resort
Roanoke, West Virginia
October 13, 2018**

MINUTES

The following members were in attendance: Chairwoman Amores; Vice-Chairwoman Cofer; Secretary Hayhurst; Immediate Past Chairwoman Smith; Ms. Marcum; Mr. Bradford; Mr. Belcher; Mr. Zak; Mr. Chapman; Mrs. Koreski; Mrs. Brunicardi-Doss; Mr. Duty; Mrs. Bright; Ms. Nichols

The following members were not present: Mr. Raber; Mr. Moore; Mr. Lockhart; Mrs. Thompson; Ms. Bias; Mrs. Counts; Mr. Henry; Mr. Gordon

1. **Call to Order** – Chairperson Amores
2. **Ascertainment of Quorum** –Chairperson Amores
3. **Review/Approval of Minutes from July 21, 2018, Meeting**

ACTION TAKEN: Mr. Chapman moved to approve the minutes of the July 21, 2018 meeting. Vice-Chair Cofer seconded the Motion. Unanimous approval by the members.

4. **Reports of Officers:**

A. Chairperson Amores

- a. Two vendors presented at State Bar Board meeting:
 - i. Tali – voice recognition billing software.
 - ii. Identilect – affordable encryption software for email.
- b. Attended ABA Annual Meeting and reported on her experience.

B. Vice Chairperson Cofer – No report.

C. Secretary Hayhurst --

- a. YLS Tailgate – Successful event in conjunction with WVU College of Law Homecoming Tailgate. Spent approximately \$250.00 on snacks, coffee, water and soft drinks. Also provided some free promotional products to attendees.
- b. Monongalia County Administrative Order
 - Requires all attorneys practicing in Monongalia County and admitted to the Bar two years or less to be on the court appointed list

- Dire need for attorneys to represent indigent clients
- Broad terms in the order.
- Morgantown/Monongalia County is unique in population with regard to the University.
- Please advise anyone you know practicing in Morgantown about the Administrative Order.

D. Immediate Past Chairperson Smith – No report.

5. Update on Board of Governors' Meeting – Chairperson Amores

- A. Annual Meeting – Monica Haddad, VP of the State Bar, has taken the lead on re-vamping the Annual Meeting. If anyone has any ideas for making it more interesting or for a dynamic speaker, please provide those ideas. Discussed additional sponsorship for possibly providing wine for the tables; changing/doing away with the awards; live music;

6. Report of WVU Law School Representative

- A. Law School Rep unable to attend
- B. Chairperson Amores attended latest Visiting Committee meeting as Chair.
- Law School applications are up vs. the national average.
 - Trying to increase fundraising efforts. Public funding is down.
 - Charleston campus looks to be coming together for the next academic year. Will be in conjunction with other colleges at the University. Not a satellite campus per se; possibly doing incubators or summer classes at the location.
 - Law student mentorship program – WVU Connect: try to connect former WVU Law grads with students. Anne Wilson at WVU Law discussed with Chairperson Amores about possibly sharing information regarding our mentorship program with WVU Connect (i.e., names of mentors). ???? volunteered to assist Anne Wilson with this initiative.
 - Student Bar Association requested that YLS get more involved at the College of Law.
 - Nicole – Professor Trichta reached out to her for young lawyers to participate in lectures at the College of Law.

7. Committee Reports and Old Business

A. Young Lawyer Education and Mentoring

1. Practice Handbook – Chairperson Amores

- Per Chairperson Amores – Immediate need to update Criminal Law chapters to be updated given new Administrative Order in Monongalia County. Mr. Zak and Vice-Chair Cofer will spearhead this initiative.

- Per Mrs. Koreski, Wills section almost completed
- Per Mr. Chapman, Med Mal chapter almost completed
- Family law chapter – We will put a link to the Supreme Court forms with the chapter link. Ms. Bright volunteered to draft the Family Law chapter, in addition to the link to the forms.
- Ms. Smith’s secretary has converted all PDF chapters of the handbook to Microsoft Word format for easy editing.

2. Bridge the Gap – Chairperson Amores

- Logistics are set for the April program at the Embassy Suites in Charleston.
- Bridgeport Conference Center has been confirmed for November 15, 2019 program.
- Review current draft of the program and confirmed speakers or prospective speakers for the April, 2019 program. Chair Amores will update draft and circulate
- All speakers must prepare written material, which is to be sent to the point person who confirmed the speaker, who will then forward to Ms. Marcum who will submit it to the State Bar two weeks prior to the program.
- An ad will be placed in the West Virginia Lawyer magazine; will need to be placed on Facebook, Instagram and website pages.
- The November session will be opened up for all young lawyers to attend for CLE credit at a small fee. It was suggested that the fee be \$50.00.
- Vice Chair Cofer should begin working with Anita Casey now on 2020 programs.
- It was suggested that we do a survey for attendees to complete following the programs.

3. Young Lawyer Mentoring Program – Chairperson Amores

- It is live, but needs to be publicized more. We will re-publicize.

4. Admissions Ceremonies – Vice-Chair Cofer

- Large ceremony this past week. Unfortunately, we did not have YLS representation due to a conflict that arose for Vice Chair Cofer.
- In the future, we should encourage all that can attend should attend the large October ceremony. It is difficult due to the short notice of the ceremonies at times.
- If you volunteer to attend, please make sure you put it on your calendar. Also, if there is an issue, check with Anita Casey.
- There will be admission ceremonies every month or so. If you can attend, please volunteer to do so.

B. Law Student Education and Mentoring

1. Lunchtime Lecture Series –Mr. Zak

- Mr. Zak is going to be putting together a presentation in the very near future. He anticipates doing a presentation on Magistrate Court practice.
- Mrs. Brunicardi-Doss volunteered to do a presentation.

2. Bar Exam Box Lunches – Chairperson Amores

- The box lunch program in July was successful.
- The College of Law has agreed to split the cost for the February exam if we wish to do it. Chair Amores asked for a Motion on the proposal.

ACTION TAKEN: Mrs. Brunicardi-Doss moved that we provide box lunches for the February Bar Exam. Mr. Chapman seconded the Motion. Unanimous approval by the members of the Committee.

C. Community Outreach

1. Special Projects/Public Service Committee – Mrs. Brunicardi-Doss and Mrs. Cofer

- Will be doing an Amazon Wish List for a family. The families will be chosen from the Wood County area in the next week or so.

2. WVU Women’s Business Center and Entrepreneurship – Mr. Lockhart

- Mr. Lockhart reached out to the Center, but they have not responded.
- We will leave on the Agenda until the next meeting and if no contact by that time, we may remove the agenda item.

D. YLS Technology Committee – Chairperson Amores

1. YLS Website

2. Social Media

- i. Everyone like and share the page.
- ii. If you do any events, please take pictures and send to Ms. Bias.

E. Budget Committee – Secretary Cofer and Mrs. Koreski

- This year’s budget has already been set. The Budget Committee will meet in

December to plan for next year's budget.

- The Bridge the Gap budget will need to be increased for next year and the Budget Committee should know this, but should be reminded.

F. Bylaws Revision – Immediate Past Chairperson Smith

- As discussed in the prior meeting, an incorrect version of the Bylaws was submitted to the Supreme Court. A letter has been sent by Dean Rohrig, President of the State Bar, to the Supreme Court as a public comment that certain provisions were missing from the Bylaws which should have been included. Chair Amores also submitted a letter to the Supreme Court advising of the error and asking for it to be corrected, noting that Vice Chair Cofer caught the mistake.

G. Annual Meeting – Chairperson Amores

1. Young Lawyer of the Year and Mentor of the Year

- There is discussion about eliminating these Awards from the Annual Meeting Banquet program. The concern is time. Discussion regarding how to streamline the presentation of the awards. We need to voice our concerns to our Board Representative about elimination of the awards.

H. District Events for the Current Year – District Representatives

- Ms. Thomspson had an event in Logan that was very well attended.
- Mrs. Koreski had an event. Unfortunately, only two attorneys showed up. She will do another event.
- District 8 had an event with Habitat with Humanity. Very well attended. Food was provided. Very informative with regard to Habitat for Humanity as well.
- Mr. Zak is going to provide lunch at the mandatory training being held in Monongalia County Circuit Court for all court appointed attorneys.
- Please do events if you haven't already. If we don't use the money, we may lose it in the next budget.

I. Other Old Business

1. Attendance requirements – If you miss more than 2 meetings, you could be removed and will have to pay your own way to the Annual Meeting

8. New Business

- A. **African American Representative – Mikail Clark has resigned his position as the African American Representative. We will need to hold an Election to replace him.**

ACTION TAKEN: Chapman moved. Zak 2nd. No discussion. Unanimously approved.

9. Regional Officer Reports

- A. Per Mr. Bradford, Raleigh County Public Defendant and Legal Aid Office are both hiring.**
- B. Per Mr. Chapman, there is an opening in the Ohio County Circuit Court.**
- C. Per Ms. Koreski, Judge Matish authored the Supreme Court opinion issuing the Writ of Prohibition against the Impeachment Proceedings in the West Virginia Senate regarding Justice Workman.**

10. Next Executive Committee Meeting – January 11-12, 2019: Blennerhasset Hotel, Parkersburg, West Virginia

Additional upcoming meetings:

April 7-8, 2019: Embassy Suites Hotel, Charleston, West Virginia

As soon as dates and locations for 2019-2020 term of Ann Haight are confirmed, they will be passed along to the Committee.

11. Adjournment –

ACTION TAKEN: Mr. Chapman moved to adjourn.