

**WAUKESHA COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
Monday, January 22, 2024  
via Zoom video conference**

**Present:** Remzy Bitar, Jesse Blocher, Michelle Fitzgerald, Aaron Hall (President Elect), Christine Hansen (Secretary), Alexander Kay, Andrea Lau, Corey Montiho (President), Jack Pitzo, Daniel Rieck, Sara Scullen, AnnMarie Sylla (Past President)

**Excused:** Sarah Guenther (Treasurer)

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by President Montiho.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Sarah Guenther circulated the written treasurer's report prior to the meeting. The report included the financial reports and the donation letter to the Food Pantry of Waukesha County that accompanied the \$603 donation raised at the holiday party. There was no discussion on the treasurer's report.

**Board of Governor's Update:** District 6 Board of Governors (BOG) Representative AnnMarie Sylla reported that she has a summary of votes from the last meeting as well as talking points from the Diversity Internship Program lawsuit that she can share with members as requested. Representative Sylla also indicated that she is finishing her second term on the BOG and that if any members are interested in running for the position they can contact her. Jesse Blocher said he might be interested in the position.

**Old Business:**

- 1. Approval of Minutes:** There were no board meetings held in November 2023 or December 2023. President Elect Hall will forward the October 2023 meeting minutes to President Montiho for circulation prior to the February 2024 meeting. A vote will be taken at the February 2024 meeting to approve the minutes.
- 2. Judges Night Review and Future Planning:** AnnMarie Sylla reported that Judges' Night went well and attendees enjoyed the music. The primary concern is the back-to-back events with the Litigation Seminar, Judges' Night, the Ethics Seminar, and the Holiday Party all between October and December. AnnMarie Sylla recommended moving one of the seminars to the spring, specifically to February. Jesse Blocher suggested keeping the CLEs in the fall and having Judges' Night earlier in the fall or moving it to the spring. Discussion had. No consensus reached. No vote taken.
- 3. Holiday Party Review and 2024 Planning:** AnnMarie Sylla reported that attendance at the holiday party was great. Attendees were very generous resulting in \$603 being raised for donation to the Food Pantry of Waukesha County. Past President Sylla's primary concern is that while the Historic Courthouse 1893 is a nice venue it is expensive. Andrea Lau indicated that she thought the cost was somewhat of a deterrent for members. Jesse Blocher recommended subsidizing the cost for members. Discussion had. No consensus reached. No vote taken.

**New Business:**

- 1. WCBA Website Security:** Commissioner Rieck discussed concerns he has regarding the WCBA website's security. He spoke with a friend who works in the field and the friend indicated that the WCBA website does not meet industry standards. He looked into a

couple of companies to do security for the WCBA website for an annual fee. AnnMarie Sylla stated that the registrations and payments on the website are conducted through PayPal and no registrant financial information is saved to the WCBA website, so member financial information is secure.

Christine Hansen expressed concern regarding paying to fix the existing website when the board has in recent years been investigating replacing the website. Discussion was had about efforts previously made to solicit bids and replace the existing website. Michelle Fitzgerald recommended doing a combined website update and new maintenance plan. Christine Hansen recommended forming a website committee. President Montiho indicated that members interested in being on the website committee should contact him.

2. **School District of Waukesha Mock Trial Team Sponsorship:** President Montiho discussed the Board's prior sponsorship of the Waukesha South High School Mock Trial Team. Michelle Fitzgerald discussed the upcoming regional high school mock trial competition. No request for sponsorship has been made by any of the participating Waukesha County teams. As such, no action was taken.

3. **2023-2024 Events**

- a. **Judicial Roundtable/Support Staff Luncheon (Criminal):** Jack Pitzo reported that he is working with Criminal Law Section Chair Patrick Campbell and Judge William Domina to plan the spring 2024 criminal section judicial roundtable. They are looking at a tentative date of March 28, 2024, over the lunch hour but are hoping to finalize the date this week. They are also working on topics for the roundtable. The Criminal Law Section is likely to provide a light lunch for attendees perhaps from Cousin's Subs.
- b. **Euchre Night/Happy Hour:** President Montiho reported that approximately six to eight people attended the last Euchre Night and the attendees were primarily the same as at the previous event. The WCBA spent approximately \$80 to cover the cost of food for the attendees. Whether there will be another Euchre Night will be decided by Judge Michael Aprahamian and Attorney Jim Mathie.
- c. **Judicial Roundtable (Family):** President Montiho will reach out to Family Section Chair Kelly Neitzke about the possibility of a 2024 Family Section Judicial Roundtable.
- d. **Annual Meeting:** AnnMarie Sylla reported that the 2023 annual meeting held at Whirly Ball was not well attended given the mid- to late-afternoon start time. Jesse Blocher stated that the annual meeting was well-attended prior to the Covid-19 pandemic. Christine Hansen recommended moving the annual meeting back to the lunch hour on a date in May. Discussion had. No consensus reached. No vote taken.

**Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn was made by President Montiho, seconded by Jesse Blocher. The motion carried and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Christine L. Hansen, Secretary