

MINUTES
HAWAII STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING

1100 Alakea Street, Suite 1000
Honolulu, HI 96813

Thursday, February 22, 2018

A. **CALL TO ORDER**

President Howard Luke called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m. with a quorum present. The following persons were present for all or part of the meeting:

Officers Present

Howard Luke
Derek Kobayashi
P. Gregory Frey
Russ Awakuni
Karin Holma

Others Present

James Kawachika

HSBA Staff

Patricia Mau-Shimizu
Iris Ito
Christina Bae
Levi Hookano

Directors Present

Cecelia Chang
Steven Chow
Rebecca Copeland
Vladimir Devens
Rhonda Griswold
Geraldine Hasegawa
Kristin Izumi-Nitao
Carol Kitaoka
Kai Lawrence
Lisa Munger
Mark K. Murakami
Alika Piper
Shannon Sheldon
John Tonaki
Jamila Jarmon - YLD President

Board Members Absent

Rhonda Griswold (absent excused)

***B. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. **Judicial Retention:** Bar-elected Judicial Selection Commission (JSC) representative, James Kawachika, was invited to the meeting to express his views on HSBA's role with respect to judicial retention.

Mr. Kawachika recommended that HSBA maximize its input into the judicial retention process by giving additional information. The JSC already receives the evaluation results that are given to the Chief Justice and individual judge who is up for retention. Mr. Kawachika noted that the people from the other resource groups take positions on whether they support or oppose the retention of a judge, but HSBA does not. He distributed copies of forms that petitioning judges need to complete and stated that the criteria is similar to the HSBA criteria for judicial appointments, with some additional criteria. Mr. Kawachika added that it would be helpful to JSC to verify the negative comments on a judge to ensure that it is not just "sour grapes."

[The Board recessed the meeting to handle other business in executive session. The regular part of the meeting resumed at 1:25 p.m.]

- C. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to approve the minutes of the January 25, 2018 Board meeting.
- D. **TREASURER'S REPORT** - Treasurer Karin Holma reported that there will likely be a shortfall in revenue from penalties because more members have paid their annual dues on time. The 2018 budget for penalty income was projected at \$77k. Ms. Holma stated that the financials are being reformatted to be easier to read and understand.
- E. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** - Executive Director Patricia Mau-Shimizu reported on the following items:
 - 2018 Licensing Registration - 140 HSBA members have yet to renew. More members over 70 years are staying in practice. There are 159 pro hac vice members to date.
 - Judiciary budget – SB2150 did not include funding for the additional District Maui judge and staff. The CIP appropriation for the furniture and equipment was reduced.
- F. **YLD PRESIDENT'S REPORT** - - YLD President Jamila Jarmon reported on the following items:
 - Mock Trial competition is almost over with the finals coming up shortly.
 - Law Week is up next; a call for volunteers will be issued soon.

* This item was taken out of order due to the presence of guests.

G. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** (continued)

1. **Judicial Retention** - Director Steve Chow, chair of the subcommittee that is reviewing Board policy 1.8 on judicial retention, recommended that the subcommittee propose revisions that will consider the suggestions from the Judicial Selection Commission representatives for HSBA to provide more impactful information to the JSC.

H. **NEW BUSINESS**

2. **Request to Subsidize the *Hawaii Bar Journal*** - Grass Shack Productions, publisher of the *Hawaii Bar Journal*, can no longer subsidize its own production costs due to the trend toward digital media and rising hard copy costs. It has asked for financial support from HSBA to subsidize the monthly *Journal*.

Board members stated how some prefer the hard copy of the *Journal*, but others, usually the younger attorneys, prefer a digital copy. It was noted that the digital version would be easier to search for past articles. Inactive members and active members outside of Hawaii are provided with a digital version of the *Journal* produced by the publisher.

The Finance Committee will schedule a meeting with the publisher to discuss the financial support request, and then make a recommendation to the Executive Committee and the Board.

3. **House Resolution #21** - HR 21 urges the Hawaii Chapter of the American Judicature Society and the Hawaii State Bar Association to analyze and assess the role of the Judiciary within the constitutional framework of government in the State of Hawaii. While the HSBA Board did not have time to discuss the resolution before its hearing, the Judiciary did submit written comment and offered amendments. Ms. Mau-Shimizu reported that HR 21 was passed out of committee with amendments, however, a final version has not been issued.

The Board decided that it would complete a *Keller* analysis and discussion after a final version of House Resolution 21 is passed.

I. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

Submitted by:



Patricia Mau-Shimizu
HSBA Executive Director

Approved by:



Russ S. Awakuni
HSBA Secretary