

MINUTES
HAWAII STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING

1100 Alakea Street, Suite 1000
Honolulu, HI 96813

Thursday, November 19, 2015

A. **CALL TO ORDER**

President Gregory Markham called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. with a quorum present. The following persons were present for all or part of the meeting:

Officers Present

Gregory Markham
Jodi Yi
Nadine Ando
Russ Awakuni
Mark M. Murakami

Others Present

Kristin Izumi-Nitao
Howard Luke
Emiko Meyers (by phone)
Lisa Munger

Directors Present

Brian Black
Cecelia Chang
Steven Chow
Rebecca Copeland
Vladimir Devens
Geraldine Hasegawa
Karin Holma
Carol Kitaoka
Derek Kobayashi (by phone)
Laurel Loo (by phone)
Georgia McMillen
Mark K. Murakami
Alika Piper
Miriah Holden - YLD President

HSBA Staff

Patricia Mau-Shimizu
Iris Ito
Debra White
Christina Bae

Board Members Absent

Rhonda Griswold^x
Mei-Fei Kuo^x

^xExcused Absence.

- B. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to approve the minutes of the October 22, 2015 Board meeting.
- C. **TREASURER'S REPORT** - Treasurer Mark M. Murakami reported that we await the Hawaii Supreme Court's decision on Supreme Court entities fees which will be included in the attorney renewal statements. He also noted that the HSBA 2014 tax returns were filed.
- D. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** - Executive Director Patricia Mau-Shimizu reported on the following items:
- November Professionalism Course - 150 attendees. The course format changed 3 years ago, so a course evaluation is scheduled.
 - 2016 Licensing Registration Update - Testing of forms and reports are in progress. A communications tab was created to streamline the HSBA communications process. 2016 Bar Convention, October 14th - Keynote speaker will be 2016 ABA President Linda Klein.
- E. **YLD PRESIDENT'S REPORT** - YLD President Miriah Holden reported on the following items:
- The YLD held a social event and volunteer appreciation on November 6th at Square Barrels which was well-attended.
 - The Mock Trial project for 2016 is starting up.
- F. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
1. **YLD Delegate in the ABA House of Delegates** - YLD President Holden presented the YLD Board's proposal that the outgoing YLD President serve as the YLD Delegate to the ABA House of Delegates (HOD) for a 2-year term. If the outgoing President declines or is aging out, then the YLD Board will make another appointment, subject to HSBA Board approval. The appointed YLD Delegate must be an ABA member by the start of the term. YLD President Holden stated that the YLD Board is requesting funding of \$1500 to cover travel, hotel, and per diem for the 2016 ABA meetings. She also noted that she plans to decline the position for the initial term.

The Board discussed that funding would come from pre-unified funds due to certain issues that come before the HOD for vote. They also discussed the finite nature of the pre-unified funds and estimated depletion in 5-6 years if the HSBA-ABA Delegate, YLD President, ABA-YLD District Representative (in applicable years), and YLD Delegate attended every ABA Midyear and Annual meeting from here on. It was suggested that the HSBA Board limit the types of issues that YLD Delegate votes upon (non-*Keller*) so that perhaps funding come from the operating budget instead of pre-unified funds. It was also recommended that the Strategic Planning Committee study the issue of the pre-unified funds in light of its eventual depletion.

Action taken: A motion was made and seconded to adopt the YLD's proposal to have the outgoing YLD President, or other HSBA Board-approved YLD member, serve as the YLD Delegate to the HOD, and that \$1500 be budgeted for the Delegate to attend the 2016 ABA HOD meetings. The motion was subsequently amended and divided into two motions as follows:

A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to adopt the YLD's proposal to have the outgoing YLD President, or other HSBA Board-approved YLD member, serve as the YLD Delegate to the HOD.

A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to adopt the YLD's request of \$1500 to fund the YLD Delegate's attendance to the ABA HOD meetings in 2016.

G. **NEW BUSINESS**

2. **Banking Resolution and Signature Cards for 2016 HSBA Officers**

Action taken: A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to approve the banking resolution which authorizes the 2016 HSBA Officers, Executive Director, and the Director of Operations to conduct monetary transactions on behalf of the HSBA.

3. **HSTJA-HSBA Committee** - President Markham explained his prior commitment to serving in a greater capacity on the Board of Examiners in 2016 and beyond, and his desire to relinquish his role on the HSTJA-HSBA (fka Bench-Bar) Committee.

Action taken: A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to approve President Markham's recommendation to appoint HSBA Board Secretary Russ Awakuni to serve on the Hawaii State Trial Judges Association-Hawaii State Bar Association in place of the immediate past president for the 2016 calendar year.

4. **60-Day Notice to Establish New Section** - Board members discussed the information submitted by proponents who wish to establish a "Solo and Small Firm Hawaii Section" and a "Cannabis Law Section." It was noted that the both groups were missing a proposed budget for the first two years of operation. It was also noted for the Cannabis Section, that while there is no minimum number of attorneys in establishing the initial membership, the 3 initial members listed does not seem to indicate great interest in creating this Section. The Executive Director will request additional information from the proponents.

5. **Upcoming Vacancies on the HSBF Board**

Action taken: After discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to adopt the HSBA Nominating Committee's recommendation to appoint/reappoint the following individuals for a three-year term beginning January 1, 2016: Rai Saint Chu, Louise Ing, and Craig Wagnild.

6. **Committee Reports** - Board members who also serve on HSBA Committees were given an opportunity to verbally report on the activities of their committee.
- Transitioning Lawyers - Gerry Hasegawa reported that the committee is working on issues of trusteeships, closing down a law practice, and the sale/valuation of a law practice.
 - Civic Education - Carol Kitaoka reported that the committee has planned a presentation and speaker from Sudan on War Crimes at the Supreme Court on December 10th and encouraged everyone to attend.
 - Judicial Administration - Steve Chow reported that the committee coordinated a successful Bench-Bar Conference at the Bar Convention and that resulting reports will be published in the *Hawaii Bar Journal* and on the website.
 - Continuing Legal Education - Vlad Devens thanked the HSBA staff for organizing and implementing all the CLE programs throughout the year.
- *7. **Letter from League of Women Voters** - President Markham stated that the League of Women Voters is requesting support of its proposal for an amendment to the Charter for the City and County of Honolulu concerning appointments to the County Ethics Commission. There was discussion whether there would be any *Keller* concerns with regard to the HSBA participating in the formulation of charter revision questions to be placed before the electorate in 2016, which may be perceived to be taking part in a political process. It was noted that HSBA appoints members to other groups that may take up issues of *Keller* concern.

After further discussion, it was decided that HSBA would respond that it would follow the proposal as it proceeds through the Charter Revision Review process, and if adopted by the electorate, the HSBA would review the appointment process.

H. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 1:28 p.m.

Submitted by:



Patricia Mau-Shimizu
HSBA Executive Director

Approved by:



Russ S. Awakuni
HSBA Secretary

* Addendum to Agenda.