

MINUTES
HAWAII STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING

1100 Alakea Street, Suite 1000
Honolulu, HI 96813

Thursday, February 25, 2016

A. **CALL TO ORDER**

President Jodi Yi 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

Jodi Yi
Nadine Ando
Howard Luke
Russ Awakuni
Mark M. Murakami (by phone)

Others Present

Michelle Acosta
Ryan Engle
Nalani Fujimori Kaina
Jodi Yamamoto

Directors Present

Rebecca Copeland
Vladimir Devens
Rhonda Griswold
Carol Kitaoka
Derek Kobayashi
Mei-Fei Kuo
Georgia McMillen
Lisa Munger
Kristin Izumi-Nitao
Alika Piper
Ryan Hew - YLD President

HSBA Staff

Patricia Mau-Shimizu
Iris Ito
Debra White
Christina Bae
Nikolette Hartmann

Board Members Absent

Cecelia Chang^x
Steven Chow^x
Geraldine Hasegawa?
Emiko Meyers^x
Mark K. Murakami?

^xExcused Absence.

- B. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to approve the minutes of the special Board meeting on January 18, 2016, and the regular Board meeting on January 28, 2016.
- C. **TREASURER'S REPORT** - Treasurer Mark M. Murakami reported that income from penalties (late fees on attorney renewal) are lower than previous years because more members are paying on time and credit card fees are higher than budgeted due to more online payments. He also noted that the current loan balance on the mortgage is approximately \$1.3M.
- D. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** - Executive Director Patricia Mau-Shimizu reported on the following items:
- 2016 Licensing Registration Update - 7832 received; 287 outstanding.
 - Clare E. Connors Nomination to Federal Bench - Due to the short advance notice of Ms. Connors' confirmation hearing before the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee, there was insufficient time for HSBA to conduct its normal process for judicial appointments, even though Ms. Connors was willing to go through the HSBA process. Since the period for acceptance of public comments had passed, it was advised that the HSBA judicial appointment process was not timely, so an email to members with a nomination update, which included a copy of the Hawaii Federal Judicial Selection Commission testimony in support of Ms. Connors, was transmitted.
 - Legislative Update - Bills of concern to HSBA are still being monitored. SB153 and SB2420 appear likely to crossover to the House. SB2238 and SB2239 not as likely to crossover.
- E. **YLD PRESIDENT'S REPORT** - YLD President Ryan Hew reported on the following items:
- Mock Trial - Proceeding fairly smoothly; minor issues being addressed.
 - Law Week - Ramping up; will be asking for volunteers for legal clinics and Legal Line.
 - CLE jointly sponsored with the ADR Section - Tentatively scheduled for March 30th.
- F. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
1. **Judiciary Budget** - In accordance with HSBA Board policy, the Board discussed the germaneness of taking a position on the Judiciary's proposed FY2017 supplemental budget request to the purpose of regulating the legal profession, and whether members would generally support the Board's position, if one was taken. It was noted that the HSBA had submitted testimony in previous years in support of the Judiciary's Capital Improvement Project (CIP) funding request.
- Action taken:** After discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to determine that these issues are germane to the purposes of regulating the legal profession, and therefore meets *Keller* requirements.

Action taken: A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to approve the Executive Committee's recommendation to submit testimony to the Legislature in support of the Judiciary's CIP funding request for FY2017.

2. **Proposed Amendments to Board Policy Manual** - President Yi recused herself from participating on this issue due to her membership on the Publications Committee.

At its January 2016 meeting, the Board discussed proposed amendments to Sections 11.1.C and 11.2.D of the Board Policy Manual regarding the circulation of the *Hawaii Bar Journal* and the Hawaii Bar Directory. The Board suggested further amendments, and requested comment from the Publications Committee on the latest proposed amendments. The Publications Committee had no comment.

Action taken: After discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to approve the amendments to Sections 11.1.C and 11.2.D of the Board Policy Manual as proposed and further revised at the January 2016 Board meeting.

- *G. **PRESENTATION BY VLSH and LASH** - The Presidents and Executive Directors of Volunteer Legal Services Hawaii and Legal Aid Society of Hawaii, Ryan Engle, Michelle Acosta, Jodi Yamamoto, and Nalani Fujimori Kaina, respectively, informed the Board of their organizations' collaborative efforts over the last several years and distributed a summary of their Pro Bono Joint Delivery Service Plan. They explained that the members of their Boards and staffs having been working together to examine strengths and weaknesses of both organizations, to identify duplication of services, and to develop a centralized intake system. The system would refer callers to the proper agency for further action. VLSH and LASH plan to continue to collaborate on future projects and programs.

F. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

3. **Establish New HSBA Section**

Action taken: A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to approve the creation of the Solo and Small Firm Hawaii Section of the HSBA. YLD President Hew, also a founding member of the new Section, recused himself from voting.

*Item taken out of order due to schedules of guests.

H. NEW BUSINESS

4. SB779 Relating to Courts

Action taken: A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to approve the Executive Committee's recommendation to take no action with respect to SB 779, which proposes to raise the District Court's jurisdictional limit for civil actions involving specific performance. Due to the limited nature of its scope, the Board concluded that action on this measure would be best left to the Collection Law Section to pursue.

5. 2016 HSBA Committee Chair Appointments

Action taken: A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to adopt the Executive Committee's recommendation to ratify President Yi's appointments of 2016 Committee Chairs.

6. Appointments to Special Committee on Judicial Performance

Action taken: A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to approve of the HSBA Nominating Committee's recommendation of Hayley Y.C. Cheng and P. Gregory Frey as nominees to the Special Committee on Judicial Performance (aka Rule 19 Committee). If approved by the Hawaii Supreme Court, their 3-year term will begin March 5, 2016.

H. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

Submitted by:



Patricia Mau-Shimizu
HSBA Executive Director

Approved by:



Russ S. Awakuni
HSBA Secretary