

MINUTES
HAWAII STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING

1100 Alakea Street, Suite 1000
Honolulu, HI 96813

Thursday, August 22, 2019

A. **CALL TO ORDER**

President Derek Kobayashi 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

Derek Kobayashi
P. Gregory Frey
Karin Holma
Russ Awakuni
Paul Naso

Others Present

Addison Bonner
Ryan Hamaguchi
Ruth Kim Oh

Directors Present

Steven Chow
Rebecca Copeland
Vladimir Devens
Geraldine Hasegawa
Erin Kobayashi
Corianne Lau
Laurel Loo (phone)
Jacob Lowenthal (phone)
Mark K. Murakami
John Tonaki
Summer Kaiawe

HSBA Staff

Patricia Mau-Shimizu
Iris Ito
Christina Bae
Katra Cuskaden

Directors Absent

William Harrison - excused
Kristin Izumi-Nitao - excused
Carol Kitaoka - excused
Lisa Munger - excused
Zale Okazaki - excused

- B. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to approve the minutes of the July 25, 2019 board meeting.

C. **TREASURER'S REPORT** - Treasurer Paul Naso stated that the July 30th financials will be included with next month's board agenda.

*D. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **2020 Goal Group Projects Funding Requests** - Mr. Naso referred the Board to the summary chart of the Goal Group projects budget request. He stated that the joint Executive-Finance Committee reviewed the budget requests and had recommended approval for all except the requests of the Civic Education Committee and the Neighbor Island CLE, pending additional information from both groups. Mr. Naso brought to the Board's attention the advisory from the financial auditors hired by HSBA which noted that funds collected for a particular purpose must be used first before using other funds. The Civic Education Committee has since revised its budget requests to use the \$15,039 balance of its reserves in 2020.

Civic Education Committee Co-chairs Ryan Hamaguchi and Ruth Kim Oh described the Committee's 2020 budget requests and answered questions from the Board about specific projects.

Action taken: After further discussion, a motion was made, seconded, and carried by a vote of 14 to 1 to adopt the recommendation of the joint Executive-Finance Committee to approve the proposed 2020 budget requests of the Goal Groups with the exception of the Neighbor Island CLE budget, pending information from the Neighbor Island bars.

The Board further discussed the expenditure of HSBA funds on food for the various projects. It was suggested that The Working Group address this issue and report back to the Board.

E. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** - Executive Director Patricia Mau-Shimizu reported on the following items:

- Alakea Office Mortgage - Financial institutions were contacted for proposals on refinancing options for HSBA's mortgage. Six institutions are interested in submitting proposals.
- Judicial Appointments Process - A timetable the 7 upcoming judicial appointments was distributed. A special board meeting tentatively scheduled for September 12th to interview all appointees.

F. **YLD PRESIDENT'S REPORT** - YLD President Summer Kaiawe reported on the following items:

- Mock Trial Competition - A criminal law issue will be selected for this coming year's competition. YLD will start planning for it in the Fall.
- Fit to Practice Challenge - A friendly fitness and well-being competition will be held among interested bar members.

* Item taken out of order due to the presence of guests.

G. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** - None.

H. **NEW BUSINESS** (continued)

2. **Disciplinary Board Succession Trusteeship Concerns and Proposed Rule Changes** - President Kobayashi gave an overview of the successor trusteeship issue that the Disciplinary Board and HSBA members face. He noted that the Executive Committee supports the concept of requiring members to designate a successor, however, the logistics of such a proposed rule amendment need to be worked out.

Director Geraldine Hasegawa requested time for neighbor island directors to inform their constituents of such a proposed rule change to get their feedback so that their concerns may be taken into consideration. It was recognized that this type of requirement would greatly impact neighbor island attorneys, criminal defense attorneys, family law attorneys, and other solo practitioners.

Board members raised other ideas to fund the cost of successor trusteeships, such as a special assessment to HSBA members or a type of insurance for members to pay into that would address this issue.

Action taken: A motion was made, seconded, and carried by a vote of 12 to 2 to adopt the recommendation of the Executive Committee to support the concept of a proposed rule amendment that would require members to designate a successor trustee, subject to feedback from neighbor island members and details of the proposed plan. Director Vlad Devens recused himself from voting.

3. **HSBA Annual Awards** - The recommendations from the HSBA Awards Committee was distributed at the meeting.

Action taken: A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to Adopted the recommendation of the Awards Committee to recognize the following individuals with HSBA Awards to be presented at the Annual Meeting luncheon at the Bar Convention:

- *Champion for Social Justice Award* (courageous legal work in the face of public controversy that helps promote the interests of justice and preserves the integrity of the judiciary) - **Daniel G. Hempey, Esq.**
- *C. Frederick Schutte Award* (outstanding and meritorious service to the legal community and the profession) - **David J. Reber, Esq.**
- *Golden Gavel Award* (outstanding service to the state or federal judiciary in Hawaii such as: activities relating to the court practice and procedures; activities relating to new or innovative projects regarding the Judiciary; outstanding service having an effect directly or indirectly upon the fair and efficient provision of justice by the Judiciary) - **Honorable Joseph E. Cardoza** (retired)

I. **ADJOURNMENT**

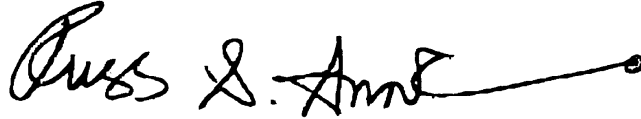
The meeting adjourned at 1:46 p.m.

Submitted by:



Patricia Mau-Shimizu
HSBA Executive Director

Approved by:



Russ S. Awakuni
HSBA Secretary