

MINUTES
HAWAII STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING

Via Zoom
Honolulu, HI 96813

Thursday, May 26, 2022

A. **CALL TO ORDER**

President Shannon Sheldon called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. with a quorum present.

The following persons were present for all or part of the meeting:

Officers Present

Shannon Sheldon
Rhonda Griswold
Jesse Souki
Lanson Kupau
Alika Piper

Others Present

Lori Brown

HSBA Staff

Patricia Mau-Shimizu
Iris Ito
Sean Perez

Directors Present

Jocelyn Chong
Steven Chow
Vladimir Devens
Jessica Domingo
William Harrison
Geraldine Hasegawa
Erin Kobayashi
Jacob Lowenthal
Emiko Meyers
Mark K. Murakami
Paul Naso
Mark Valencia
Jasmine Wong

Officers/Directors Absent

Kristin Izumi-Nitao
Carol Kitaoka
Zale Okazaki

- B. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** - A motion was made (S. Chow), seconded, and carried without opposition to move into executive session.
- C. **END OF EXECUTIVE SESSION** - A motion was made, seconded, and carried without opposition to end the executive session.
- D. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT** - President Sheldon reported that Judicial Selection Commission Chair Nadine Ando attended the May 19th Executive Committee meeting to give an update on JSC rule changes and other information.
- E. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** - A motion was made (P. Naso), seconded, and carried without opposition to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2022 board meeting.
- F. **TREASURER'S REPORT** - Treasurer Alika Piper delivered the financial reports for months ending March 31 and April 30, 2022, noting total revenue and expenses for both months, as well as YTD revenues and expenses. She also reported on the current mortgage balance.

Treasurer Piper then gave an overview of the process for the 2023 budget.

- F. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** - Executive Director Patricia Mau-Shimizu reported that a slate for the HSBA Board election has been developed; 3-member panels for the judicial nominations are set; and sponsorships for the Pau Hana Fundraiser total \$80k to date.
- G. **YLD PRESIDENT'S REPORT** - YLD President Jasmine Wong reported that Law Week is scheduled for June 20-26, 2022 and will include: daily Legal Lines; daily interviews at KHON on legal topics; in-person legal clinics on 4 islands.
- H. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** - None.
- I. **NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Request by Civic Education Committee for Additional Funding**

Action taken: A motion was made (S. Chow), seconded, and carried without opposition to adopt the recommendation of the Executive Committee to approve the Civic Education Committee's funding request of \$2,508 for a project that would provide breakfast and lunch for participants in the 2022 Richardson Law & Justice Program the week of June 6th.

2. **Proposed Senior Counsel Division in the HSBA Constitution Bylaws**

Action taken: A motion was made (S. Chow), seconded, and carried without opposition to adopt the recommendation of the Executive Committee to approve the Senior Counsel Division's request for a proposed amendment to the HSBA Constitution & Bylaws to add a new Article that recognizes the Senior Counsel Division as a formal entity of the HSBA and give notice to members of this proposed amendment.

3. **Legal Aid Society of Hawaii - Board Vacancies**

Action taken: A motion was made (G. Hasegawa), seconded, and carried without opposition to adopt the recommendation of the HSBA Nominating Committee to reappoint the following individuals to the Board of the Legal Aid Society of Hawaii for a term of 3 years beginning July 1, 2022:

- ◆ Catherine Aubuchon (reappointment)
- ◆ Ian Jung (reappointment)
- ◆ Jacob Matson (reappointment)
- ◆ Arsima Muller (reappointment)

and, adopted the recommendation of the Nominating Committee to appoint the following individual to complete an unexpired term ending June 30, 2023:

- ◆ Ted Hong (new appointment)

Directors Mark K. Murakami and Secretary Lanson Kupau recused themselves from voting on the Legal Aid Board vacancies.

4. **Proposed Score Reduction on Hawaii Bar Exam**

Board members expressed collective agreement for not lowering the bar passage rate for the Hawaii Bar Exam. They voiced concern over the reasons for the proposed reduction in the minimum passing score and discussed other ways to support law school students in preparing for the Hawaii Bar Exam.

Action taken: A motion was made (P. Naso), seconded, and carried without opposition to establish a subcommittee of the Board to review the bar passage rate in Hawaii in response to the Hawaii Supreme Court's request for comment on a proposed reduction in the minimum passing score from 133 to 130 on the Hawaii Bar Exam.

J. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 1:53 p.m.

Submitted by:



Patricia Mau-Shimizu
HSBA Executive Director

Approved by:



Lanson K. Kupau
HSBA Secretary