

MINUTES
HAWAII STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
BOARD MEETING

Honolulu, HI 96813

Thursday, August 24, 2023

A. CALL TO ORDER

President Rhonda Griswold called the meeting to order at 2:33 p.m. with a quorum present.

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

Officers Present

Rhonda Griswold
Jesse Souki (via Zoom)
Mark M. Murakami (via Zoom)
Lanson Kupau (via Zoom)
Alika Piper

HSBA Staff Present

Patricia Mau-Shimizu (via Zoom)
Iris Ito
Sean Perez
Brian Simon (via Zoom)

Directors Present

Steven Chow (via Zoom)
Vladimir Devens (via Zoom)
Jessica Domingo (via Zoom)
Geraldine Hasegawa
Kristin Izumi-Nitao (via Zoom)
Ronette Kawakami (via Zoom)
Carol Kitaoka
Mark K. Murakami (via Zoom)
Mark Valencia (via Zoom)
Kelcie Nagata for Lisa Yang (via Zoom)

Officers & Directors Absent

Jocelyn Chong
Erin Kobayashi
Jacob Lowenthal
Emiko Meyers
Paul Naso
Zale Okazaki

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES - A motion was made (S. Chow), seconded, and carried without opposition to approve the minutes of the July 27, 2023 board meeting.

- C. **TREASURER'S REPORT** - Treasurer Alika Piper reported that ending July 31, 2023, Year-To-Date total revenue was \$1.7M and YTD expenses were \$1M. Mortgage balance were \$393K, and total liabilities were \$415K.
- D. **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** - None.
- E. **YLD PRESIDENT'S REPORT** - YLD Vice President Kelcie Nagata reported that the YLD is assisting with the Maui Hotline for victims of the wildfire disaster.
- F. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** - None.
- G. **NEW BUSINESS**

- 1. **2024 Goal Group Projects Funding Requests** - Treasurer/Finance Committee Chair Piper referred board members to the Goal Group Projects Budget Worksheet and highlighted the projects and amounts being requested.

Action taken: A motion was made (R. Griswold), seconded, and carried without opposition to adopt the recommendation of the joint Executive-Finance Committee to approve the proposed 2024 budget for Goal Group 2 projects. Director Geraldine Hasegawa abstained from voting.

Action taken: A motion was made (C. Kitaoka), seconded, and carried without opposition to adopt the recommendation of the joint Executive-Finance Committee to approve the proposed 2024 budget for Goal Groups 3 and 5 projects.

Action taken: A motion was made (G. Hasegawa), seconded, and carried without opposition to adopt the recommendation of the joint Executive-Finance Committee to approve the proposed 2024 budget for Goal Group 4 projects. Director Carol Kitaoka abstained from voting.

Action taken: A motion was made (G. Hasegawa), seconded, and carried without opposition to adopt the recommendation of the joint Executive-Finance Committee to approve the proposed 2024 budget for Goal Group 6 projects. Directors Steven Chow and Vlad Devens abstained from voting.

- 2. **Neighbor Island Bar Associations HSBA Support Amount** - Treasurer Piper explained that the per capita funding support given by HSBA to the neighbor island bar associations is to assist in planning/implementing activities in their jurisdiction. The current amount of support is \$20 per capita.

Action taken: A motion was made (G. Hasegawa), seconded, and carried without opposition to adopt the recommendation of the joint Executive-Finance Committee to approve the proposed amount of \$20 per capita to support activities of the neighbor island bar associations with a proviso that should neighbor island bars deplete their funding and need more to implement activities, they may return to the HSBA Board to request an additional \$5 per capita.

Relating to neighbor island members, but on a different topic, Treasurer Piper suggested that the HSBA consider waiving HSBA dues for Lahaina attorneys and others affected by the Maui wildfires. This issue will be discussed further at a future meeting.

3. **Specialty Bar Association** (SBA) - President-elect Jesse Souki explained the background of this issue and presented the policy being proposed by the Subcommittee. He noted that the Subcommittee recommended having a policy first, then discuss whether each specialty bar is following the policy. Director Mark K. Murakami suggested that language be included to explain that providing any administrative services to an SBA does not connote an endorsement or approval by HSBA of any positions taken by the SBA. This issue will be further discussed and voted upon at the September board meeting. In the meantime, responses will be sent to David Rosen, the Christian Legal Society of Hawaii, and others.

4. **HSBA Annual Awards**

Action taken: A motion was made (G. Hasegawa), seconded, and carried without opposition to adopt the recommendation of the HSBA Awards Committee to honor the following people with these HSBA Awards at the virtual Annual Meeting being held on October 17, 2023 in conjunction with Bar Convention:

- ❖ **Susan L. Arnett** - C. Frederick Schutte Award (*for outstanding and meritorious service to the legal community and the profession*)
- ❖ **Tom S. Tanimoto** - C. Frederick Schutte Award (*for outstanding and meritorious service to the legal community and the profession*)
- ❖ **Associate Justice Paula A. Nakayama** (Retired) - Golden Gavel Award (*for outstanding service to the state or federal judiciary in Hawaii*)
- ❖ **Rosemary T. Fazio** - Ki'e Ki'e Award (*for outstanding provision of professional legal services at no charge to the recipient*)

5. **Appointment/Reappointment to Hawaii State Board of CLE**

Action taken: A motion was made (G. Hasegawa), seconded, and carried without opposition to adopt the recommendation of the HSBA Nominating Committee to reappoint David Fitzpatrick and Marie Gavigan and newly appoint Titiimaea Ta'ase to the Hawaii State Board of CLE (aka MCLE Board) to a 3-year term beginning October 2, 2023.

6. **Recommendation on Reappointments to Access to Justice Commission**

Action taken: A motion was made (G. Hasegawa), seconded, and carried without opposition to adopt the recommendation of the HSBA Nominating Committee to reappoint Christine Daleiden and Carol Muranaka to the Hawaii Access to Justice Commission for a 3-year term beginning January 1, 2024.

7. **Strategic Planning Committee Update** - Director Mark K. Murakami reported that the Committee solicited proposals from three companies that are willing to facilitate a strategic planning process. The proposals will be presented to the Board at an upcoming meeting.

H. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 3:43 p.m.

Submitted by:



Iris M. Ito
Assistant Executive Director

Approved by:



Lanson K. Kupau
HSBA Secretary