

Minutes of Meeting of Council of the Consumer & Commercial Section  
State Bar of Texas  
November 18, 2022

The following members were in attendance via Zoom: Chair, Gregg Stevens, Esther Chavez, John Fugate, Rachel Hytken, Jerry Jarzombek, Xerxes Martin, Andrew Sattler, Doug Scott, Mary Spector, Lu Ann Trevino, Wayne Watson and Keith Wier.

1. The minutes of the September 23, 2022, meeting were approved.
2. John Fugate delivered the Treasurer's Report. He reported that the State Bar of Texas reported in their most recently monthly statement that for the month ending on September 30, 2022, the bank account balance of the Council was \$129,670.84 on hand. Members discussed that average operating expenses per year are approximately \$35,000 and that the State Bar recommends at least 2 years of operating expenses be retained. Council members discussed potential uses of excess funds but made no decisions about their use. The Council accepted the report. A copy of the Report will be attached to these minutes.
3. The Council Chair announced a number of goals in connection with the formation of a Nominations Committee, to be chaired by Esther Chavez. Other members of the Committee are Xerxes Martin, Mary Spector, Carla Sanchez-Adams, and Wayne Watson. Among the goals the Chair identified were geographic, practice diversity and demographic diversity (to include age diversity). A discussion followed about ideas on how to achieve those goals.
4. Website update: The Chair raised the issue of a possible redesign of the website. He mentioned an upcoming meeting with Cindy Brummer of Standard Beagle to discuss the website. Members of the committee discussed the status of the website and noted that one of the challenges is how best to maintain the website. Esther Chavez volunteered to assist and Rachel Hytken agreed to assist.
5. Annual Meeting Update. The Annual Meeting will be held June 21-23 in Austin. The Chair stated that he had made a request for our Council meeting and program to be held on Thursday so that the CLE program could be scheduled to permit a reception to immediately following the program. Members of the Council agreed scheduling in that way could be a benefit to attracting new members. Members identified the following people as potential speakers for the program: Richard Alderman, Andrew Sattler, Manny Newburger (standing), Jerry Jarzombek (Reg. F), and Rachel Hytken. Doug Scott will coordinate. (?)
6. Retreat Update: The proposed dates for the retreat are Friday, April 28 and Saturday April 29, 2023. Efforts are being made to secure a family-friendly location, with the possibility of an opening dinner off-site in the area. Potential locations being explored are the Gaylord (DFW), Great Wolf Lodge (Grapevine) and Kalahari (Round Rock). Other suggestions included Omni at Barton Creek, La Cantera and Hyatt Hill Country.

7. Craig Jordan Writing Competition: The Committee discussed ways to encourage submission, including reaching out to the law schools in new ways by having members network with law professors in areas related to consumer law and changing the timing of the announcements to coincide with students' semester workloads. Esther Chavez reported that there was already one submission for this year's competition.

8. Donations-Tabled for next time

9. Other Business.