

WOMEN'S BAR ASSOCIATION OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK
Executive Committee Meeting
March 25, 2017
Columbia Law School
New York, NY

A quorum being present, the Executive Committee meeting was called to order at approximately 10:05 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Upon review of the Executive Committee meeting minutes of January 28, 2017, a motion was made by Greta Kolcon, seconded by Amy Baldwin-Littman to approve such minutes. The motion passed.

President's Report

President Flug first reported on the event hosted the night before at Sullivan and Cromwell featuring the Governor's Counsel's office. They reported on the initiatives that have already been taken in support of women. Deborah Rosenthal graciously reported that NYWBA will pay the bill for food at the dinner.

President Flug reported that 13 of the 19 Chapters participated in Read Across America. She also reported that more JALBCA events have been held this year than ever before. She reminded everyone that JALBCA will provide \$250.00 and a speaker, and encouraged the Chapters that have not held an event to think about hosting one.

President Flug gave a follow up on the WBASNY/NYSBA joint domestic violence initiative. She also announced a WBASNY policy where the fee for up to 10 CLE certificates will be waived for attorneys employed by a non-profit organization in New York State that provides direct legal services to victims of domestic violence who attend programs.

President Flug reported on the Betty Weinberg Ellerin Mentoring Award Dinner where Justice Karen Peters of the Third Department will be honored. She encouraged the Chapters to consider giving a journal ad if they were unable to attend.

President Flug reported that the family friendly event, The Lion King on Broadway, was a huge success and there is consideration for another theater event after the September Board Meeting. The Pad Party is going well and a representative of #HappyPeriod will present at the Board meeting when she comes to pick up the donations.

Lobby Day will be on May 9th. There will be a training call on April 19th. Sandra Rivera will reach out to the Legislative Leaders but each person attending should schedule a meeting with their own representative. Depending upon attendance, there may be a dinner organized for the night before.

President Flug reported on convention and encouraged as many people as possible to attend, and further advised the Chapters they should consider budgeting to send at least their incoming president but also others.

President Flug reported that WBASNY has created a new committee headed by Amy Saltzman and Andrea Composto called the Law Abroad Committee for WBASNY travel.

The National Conference of Women's Bar Associations will be giving an honorable mention to WBASNY for our voter registration drive at their annual convention which will take place in New York City in August. The ABA convention is in New York City around the same time.

Upcoming Events

Kelly Pressler spoke about Habitat Build Day which will be April 1st in Newburgh, NY.

Amy Baldwin Littman reported that a Supreme Court admission will take place on December 11, 2017 and will be limited to 25 people. Kelly Pressler will be helping Amy coordinate the admission.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Lourdes Ventura reported that she did not have any exact amount of the balance of the bank accounts but that it was over \$250,000. She also reported that there is only \$9,900 left to spend until May 31. She reminded the Chapters that they should be focused on recruiting members and trying to raise money so WBASNY can keep doing all the things that we are doing. She also reminded the Chapters that year-end reports are due by June 1 and she asked the presidents to remind all their chapter treasurers so that we would not need to file an extension as we had to last year.

Long-Range Planning

President Flug reported that looking at our budget, we noticed we only had \$9,900 to go through the rest of the year and continue doing all the events that we like to hold. In review of the budgets over the last years, it has become apparent that we need to consider a dues increase. It has been over 10 years since the last one and even then the dues were only raised \$5.00. That means dues have only been raised \$5.00 in 15 years. WBASNY simply cannot continue at this rate so President Flug is asking Long-Range Planning to examine the issue and see if it is time for a dues increase. She asked that presidents do the same for their Chapters.

Chapter Updates

Adirondack, Brooklyn, Capital District, Central New York, Del-Chen-O, Finger Lakes, Mid-Hudson, Nassau, New York, Orange-Sullivan, Queens, Rochester, Rockland, Staten Island, Suffolk, Westchester and Western New York provided updates regarding Chapter events and accomplishments.

Membership

The co-chairs of the membership committee reported on WBASNY's membership numbers and made suggestions for reaching out to lapsed members.

New Business

Amy Saltzman reported that the Legal Services Corporation is under threat of being defunded from President Trump and advised that WBASNY will need to organize an effort to resist the defunding.

Motion to Adjourn

A motion was made by Deborah Rosenthal, seconded by Rebecca Kennedy to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelly A. Pressl, Recording Secretary