

LAWYERS CONCERNED FOR LAWYERS

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NOVEMBER 16, 2023

7:30 A.M.

VIA ZOOM VIDEOCONFERENCE

The Directors in attendance included: Chair Andrew Mohring, Chair-Elect Jennifer Anderson, Secretary Amanda Harrington, Treasurer Katherine MacKinnon, Kendra Brodin, Howard Carp, Benjamin Carpenter, Grace Chanin, Paul Cornick, Hon. Donovan Frank, Kris Fredrick, Matt Holson, Hon. Lawrence Johnson, Justin Page, Vincent Pham, and Jude Schmidt.

Directors absent: Past-Chair Caitlinrose Fisher, Hon. Tim Carey, Edward Cassidy, Hon. Martin Fallon, Lisa Lodin, Reen Reinhardt, and Jordan Vassel.

Executive Director Joan Bibelhausen and Administrative Assistant Annette Erbst were also present.

Chair Mohring called the meeting to order at **7:30 a.m.** A quorum was reached at that time.

Items Requiring Board Action/Discussion:

Approval of Minutes

Financial Statements for September and October

LCL Audit

LCL Breakfast

New CLE Rule Comment Period

Succession Planning Update

LCL Committee Reports

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

- 1. APPROVAL OF THE November 16, 2023, REGULAR MINUTES.** Upon a motion made by Brodin, second by MacKinnon, the Minutes of the November 16, 2023, regular meeting were approved.
- 2. Chair's Report.**
 - a. Chair Mohring requested a technology update. Bibelhausen reported that the office systems were back up and functioning again following the recent extended telephone and internet system failures.
 - b. Mohring reported that Propel Nonprofits has reneged on the agreement to provide executive director transition services to LCL. The executive committee has discussed the situation and recommends the board set up a transition task force to canvas available providers and issue a request for proposals. Mohring moved that the Board authorize and empower the executive committee to put together a succession task force to identify possible providers, prepare a request for proposals, do some vetting of providers, and return to the board with a plan. Second by Katherine MacKinnon. Motion carried.
 - c. Hon. Bruce Peterson, former judge and prosecutor, has agreed to be the keynote speaker at the Stepping Up Breakfast in April. MacKinnon moved the Board authorize the breakfast committee to extend an offer to Hon. Bruce Peterson to be our speaker. Second by Hon. Lawrence Johnson. Motion passed with one member opposed. Mohring requested the board provide an honorarium amount to be offered to Judge Peterson. An honorarium or contribution amount of \$2,000 range was suggested. Mohring moved that we offer Judge

Peterson \$2,000. for both the breakfast presentation and a related CLE go to him or an organization of his choice. Second by Chanin. The motion passed.

- d. A new CLE rule is proposed by the Minnesota Board of CLE that there be a one-credit requirement for substance use/mental health focused CLE. The Minnesota Supreme Court issued an order requesting comments. Motion to approve Bibelhausen submitting a comment that registers LCL as in support of this proposed rule by Holson, second by Chanin. Motion carried. Mohring reported on attendance at the CoLAP conference. Chase Anderson, Case Manager, presented at the conference on the interface between lawyer assistance programs and law schools and law students.

- 3. Treasurer's Report.** MacKinnon reported things are on track and the organization is doing just fine. MacKinnon reported that the audit has been going very well and a full report will be presented at the January board meeting. Judge Johnson moved the approval of the September and October financial statements. Second by Brodin. Motion carried.

4. Executive Director's Report.

- a. Joan invited Jon Tynjala to join the meeting to discuss his work on the Minnesota Supreme Court Steering Committee to review and make recommendations regarding the ABA recommendations for the Office of Lawyers Professional Responsibility. One of the recommended rule changes is a diversion program, which means that someone that has a substance use or mental health issue can be diverted rather than disciplined. Tynjala has been appointed as chair of the diversion subcommittee. Tynjala reported on the first meeting of the committee and answered member questions.
- b. The contract has been executed to reserve Windows at Marquette as venue for the Stepping Up breakfast, which will be held on April 19, 2024. The breakfast committee is becoming more active.
- c. The practice leave proposal (which would help a lawyer step away from their practice to get the help they need) hearing was held at the Supreme Court this week and Bibelhausen provided testimony on behalf of LCL.
- d. The Supreme Court Well-Being consortium is now under auspices of the MSBA Well-Being committee and is likely to offer its first program in January.

5. Committee & Task Force Reports.

- a. Brodin reported Education & Outreach has tweaked the survey which will be sent out on annual basis to all board members.
- b. Harrington reported Nominations and Governance committee met recently and quite a few directors will be ending their first rotation. Dr. Jennifer Waltman has resigned from the board. A few by-laws are being discussed.
- c. Chanin reported that the Cases & Intervention committee has met and is discussing the meeting time and the diversion plans.

- 6. Other Business and Upcoming Events.** Upcoming events are listed on the agenda.

- 7. Motion to Adjourn.** There being no further business, Mohring adjourned the meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Amanda Harrington
Secretary

Minutes recorded by Annette Erbst, Administrative Assistant

Next Regular Meeting: January 18, 2024, 7:30 a.m. Hybrid – in person preferred.