

# 28th Judicial District Bar

Buncombe County, NC



## Minutes of the December 5, 2011 Executive Committee Meeting

### **In Attendance:**

A quorum was present.

In attendance were: Doug Tate, James Ellis, Ingrid Friesen, Lynne Davis, Jason Peltz, Brad Stark, Jason Gast, Holly Stiles, Eileen McMinn, Tikkun Gottschalk, Ryan Beadle, Bill Christy, Alan Coxie and Bar Administrator Lisa-Gaye Hall.

### **Minutes & Treasurer's Report:**

The October 31, 2011 minutes were reviewed and no changes were made. Mr. Peltz moved to approve the minutes, Ms. Friesen seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Ryan Beadle presented the treasurer's report and reviewed the balance and profit and loss sheets with the committee. He noted that the balance sheet is in line with last year and we are in good shape. Mr. Ellis moved to accept the treasurer's report, Mr. Stark seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **Finance Committee:**

Mr. Beadle explained the FC committee is exploring two different options regarding the policy calling for an audit every three years or upon the election of a new Treasurer.

#### **CLE Committee:**

Ms. Hall reported on the Nov 4<sup>th</sup> LGBT CLE. It was successful, and attended by 61 members of the Bar. The Bar is partnering with Pisgah Legal Services on a Dec 9<sup>th</sup> CLE on aiding homeowners faced with foreclosure.

#### **Communications Committee:**

Ms. McMinn stated she had nothing to report.

#### **Special Events:**

The December 2 holiday party was a big success, and was attended by approximately 210 members of the Bar and their guests. Sponsors contributed \$3050. to the party. A generous amount of toys and food were collected for Santa Pal and Manna Food Bank, as well as a total of \$845 for those charities.

#### **Pro Bono Committee:**

Mr. Gottschalk stated had nothing to report.

#### **Nominating Committee:**

Mr. Christy stated he had nothing to report.

#### **Real Estate Exploratory Committee:**

Mr. Drye was not present.

#### **Upcoming Programs:**

Ms. Friesen said that Rich Munger, Psychologist, will speak about de-escalating violent situations at the January Bar Luncheon. She is looking for a speaker for February.

Law Library:  
See President's Report.

## Other Business:

### President's Report

Mr. Tate said he met with Clerk Steve Cogburn regarding plans for the courthouse annex. He has seen plans for a 3<sup>rd</sup> floor annex library, which is smaller than the current library in the old section of the courthouse. There will be a fourth floor built onto the annex, but it will be a warmed-in shell until further notice. Mr. Cogburn is advocating for an evidence room, since evidence is currently stored in several rooms throughout the courthouse. Evidence used in a trial must be kept as long as the defendant is alive.

Currently, the plans call for a small library that could house very few books. Buncombe County has the largest law library west of Winston Salem, and the most complete in WNC. A few years ago the Bar gave its books to the Buncombe County Library. The question is: what does the Bar want in a library? Mr. Tate met with Ed Sheery, the director of the Library system, to discuss the books and the future of the library. Mr. Sheery understands there are gaps in the law collection, but he does not want to get rid of any of the books. Currently it is costing \$200 a month to store the books, and they are not available for use. One set of plans now are for an office for a librarian and a conference room in the old part of the building, with a door that leads to the District Court Judges chambers. Mr. Sheery also said there are plans to decrease the law librarian's hours to parttime. Mr. Tate said he does not believe that is a workable plan.

Mr. Tate said he sees the value of the Bar having a law library for attorneys who do not have one in their office, and believes the Bar deserves a library. Sliding shelves for the library are too heavy for the floor in the courthouse. The history of the law library was discussed. Mr. Peltz said the Bar should push for a good library in the most constructive manner possible. Mr. Gottschalk said the law library could be integrated with the Self-Help Center, so that indigent citizens could access law books. A discussion of the need for a law library ensued, and all members present agreed that solo practitioners and younger lawyers, especially, need a comprehensive law library.

## Next Meeting:

The next regular EC meeting will be on January 9, 2011 at 12:30 in Pisgah Legal Services conference room.

There being no further information coming before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned. These minutes are respectfully submitted on the 5th day of December, 2011.

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Lisa-Gaye Hall for M. Mae Creadick