

**COLLABORATIVE LAW MINUTES FROM THE
JANUARY 17, 2018 CLASP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

PRESENT IN PERSON: Bernadette Staroschuck
Stephanie Jablon
Devin Hallett Snyder
Kristie Knights
Greg Clark
Mark Gubinsky
Elisabeth Molnar

PRESENT VIA PHONE: Donna Cheswick
Deb Gilman
Lori Gephart
Liberty Weyandt
Kathleen Schneider

Officer Reports:

- a. **President's Report** – Bernadette Staroschuck welcomed everyone to the New Year.
- b. **Treasurer's Report** - Kathleen Schneider advised the cash position remains stable. She provided the CLASP Profit and Loss December 2017 statement, as well as the January through December 2017 statement. Bernadette asked Kathleen if anyone on the Executive Committee provided her with a budget? Bernadette asked if we are clear if Kathleen is expecting a budget from the Committee Chairs? Kathleen asked because she has not heard of a Committee not having a budget. Kathleen was surprised at the push back of her budget request. Bernadette advised CLASP has not had a budget before, as we cannot predict what we will need or income that will be generated.

Kathleen advised, as part of our growth, a budget should be considered. She believes that as an organization, we should start this practice. Kathleen advised she believes the organization is a bit stagnant.

Lori Gephart believes budgets are a good idea and experienced the same three years ago when Lori suggested a budget and it was pushed back and never happened.

Greg Clark advised the Training Committee believes that at least preliminarily there may be a basic training towards the end of 2018, tentatively planned. The net dollars from the 2017 training did not add a lot to CLASP because of lower participation. Greg believes a 2018 Training Committee budget could be considered at \$6,247.00 for training. They will use the same venue and

the same price charged for two to three years in a row now. For a budget, there will be retreat costs in the Kaplan Lecture costs.

Bernadette believes we need to do more marketing and to get excitement and desire back to collaborative. Bernadette thought there was great participation at the holiday party. She would like to insert into a budget the cost of joining and attending Chamber of Commerce events.

- c. **Secretary's Report** – The November and December 2017 Minutes were approved. Liberty prepared October 2017 Minutes and Susan DiGirolamo prepared March 2017 Minutes. Stephanie will obtain those Minutes and provide to Donna Cheswick for the website.

Committee Reports:

- a. **Policies and Procedures** – Mark Gubinsky advised the completed changes have been made to the By-Laws. They will be on the website. Bernadette reported in the December meeting the attorney retained for the Wellness Report advised we are in good shape. The Wellness check was \$150.00 with a non-profit attorney. We are a “healthy” organization.
- b. **Marketing** – Donna Cheswick. A meeting has not been scheduled yet and perhaps a telephone meeting will be soon. Donna's guess for a budget is \$4,000.00 to \$5,000.00 for marketing. We need to have a better presence on social media. We need to have the website looked at. Donna advised you do not need special skills, only someone to be consistent and diligent. It does not have to be that CLASP is doing x, y, z but just getting our name out there is helpful. Mark Gubinsky advised that eight to ten years ago, they spent funds to see the number of searches on the website and it was not productive. Donna advised a lot of marketing can be done low cost. For example, flyers.

Elisabeth Molnar advised the Children's Issues Meeting was a free plug for collaborative law. Elisabeth advised that anything that needs to be raised at the Family Law Section just ask Elisabeth and she will be happy to help.

- c. **Education** – Devin Hallett Snyder. Devin does not think she has a committee. Deb Gilman believes she is on the Education Committee. Perhaps a series on co-parenting and parenting issues relating to divorce will be helpful. Devin will check in with the Training Committee on how they coordinate with retreat education and training. Devin does not believe a budget is needed.

Deb Gilman made a motion for \$1,500.00 for the Kaplan Lecture to pass.

- d. **Training** – Please see above under the Treasurer's Report.

- e. **Membership** – Megan Zupancic – No Report.
- f. **Ethics** – Patty Henk – No Report.
- g. **Civil** – Liberty Weyandt – Same issue. No one is on the Committee. Shawn Casey is Official Chair but he has been MIA. Bernadette talked about discussing the collaborative process with Judges in Altoona. There is nothing in the budget needed for Civil.
- h. **Social** – No Report. It was noted that the holiday party was very nice. Stephanie advised the Committee the retreat is scheduled for March 22 – 24, 2018, per Lisa Standish.
- i. **Pro Bono** – Deb Gilman. Deb spoke that she is now on the IACP Collaboration Task Force. Deb discussed how modest means models are able to be used successfully. A woman in Florida will send Deb the grant and documents on how to gain traction on this. There can be a flat fee for the modest means model. An individual, Brian, from Ontario has shared information with Deb Gilman on how he attempted to get more people involved and into the public domain. Any ideas for groups we want to target are welcomed by Deb.

Deb will look at different models to try to mirror what we can do in CLASP. Deb Gilman will provide a budget to Kathleen. Deb Gilman, Deb Conflenti and Devin Hallett Snyder will be meeting.

- j. **UCLA Ad Hoc Committee** – No Report.
- k. **Old Business** – No Report.
- l. **New Business** – No Report. Bernadette did end with a thought of what we can do to get our name out. Perhaps we want to meet every other month in a social setting with training beforehand. The pot luck dinners are a success. Deb Gilman thinks people are very interested in the process. The December 6th seminar held by the ACBA for the Basics of Collaborative Law was successful. Bernadette raised the Build a Bike Program and suggested we all put our thinking caps on as to how we can grow the volume of our cases. At some point, someone advised the billboards we did in the past were very expensive and we could not sustain that expense.