

**Smith County Bar Foundation
Board of Directors Meeting**

June 14, 2017

Start Time: 12:05 pm

End Time: 1:20 pm

Genecov Room, Tyler Area Chamber of Commerce

Members present:

Amy Ames
Dana Bias
Patricia Coplan
Diane DeVasto
Jennifer Gaston
David Hudson
Laura Jackson
Kelly Pace
Ruth Yeager
Daniel Montgomery
Deborah Race
Andy Tindel
Tim Simpson

Also present:

John Berry-
Immediate Past
President
Cristy Arscott
Trey Yarbough

Members Absent:

Andrew Adams
Bryan Campbell
Bill Cornelius
Shannon Dacus
Dawn Franks
Michael Gross
Judge Kennedy

Issue	Action	Those Responsible	Due Dates	Follow Up Required
<p>CALL TO ORDER AND INVOCATION Andy Tindel called the meeting to order. John Berry read the written invocation submitted by Michael Gross.</p>				
<p>BOARD MEMBER BRIEFING-PRESIDENT Andy presented Certificates of Appreciation to the 2016-17 Board Members, and particularly gave thanks to John Berry for his years of service to the Board and for his help this past year as Immediate Past President. He noted that the proposed Budget for 2017-18 would be discussed later in the meeting.</p>				

<p>LAW DAY 2017 Andy commented on the numerous compliments he has received concerning Law Day. The event was well received and Judge Bass's speech was exceptional. The Judge has appreciated the reception he has received. A report on Law Day income and expenses through 05/31/17 was attached to the Agenda.</p>				
<p>STRATEGIC PLANS FOR 2016-17 COMMITTEES Andy and Deborah reported that the Fellows Committee cocktail reception at Jack Ryan's on June 13 was well attended, and a very nice event. Many Judges attended. Some Fellows were presented with certificates and small gifts. Judge Bass, 2017 Justinian Award recipient, was recognized. Jennifer Gaston reported on behalf of the Public Relations Committee that the June/July issue of <i>Tyler Today</i> features a full page on Law Day, and copies were distributed to Board members. Deborah Race reported that the Honorable Eva Guzman will speak at the next Constitution Day, but a date for the event needs to be finalized. She suggested that Mike Hatchell be invited to attend in appreciation of his help in making arrangements for the speaker. A luncheon before the afternoon speech will be planned. The Volunteer Attorney Committee reported that more volunteers are needed, and Cristy noted that Carol Campbell was absent from the meeting as her husband's daughter had passed away. Ruth Yeager reported that the Civics Program needs to be revamped and updated, and needs more bookings, the next</p>				

<p>one being March, 2018. The Grant Request Committee had no report.</p>				
<p>MINUTES The minutes from the May meeting of the Foundation were submitted for approval as written and attached to the Agenda. During review of the minutes, Andy noted the election in May of officers and directors for the new fiscal year of the Foundation to begin in July: Deborah Race—President, Tim Simpson—Vice-President, Shannon Dacus—Secretary, Daniel Montgomery—Treasurer, Andrew Adams – Director 2017-2020 (2nd term), Barbara Bass - Director 2017-2020, Ron Stutes – Director 2017-2020, Earl Drott – Director 2017-2020, and Trey Yarbrough – Director 2017-2020. He welcomed Trey, who was in attendance, to the Board.</p>	<p>The May minutes were reviewed and approved.</p>	<p>Deborah Race moved and Diane DeVasto seconded.</p>		
<p>FINANCIAL REPORT Daniel Montgomery presented the written financial report which was attached to the Agenda, including the Balance Sheet as of May 31, 2017, and Profit and Loss—July 2016 through May 2017. A copy of the Resolution adopted June 8, 2016, concerning up to a 4% sweep of income from the endowment accounts into the operating account was attached to the Agenda. Although a sweep amount of \$10,022 was available based upon 2017 actual balances, he recommended that no money be swept at present. After discussion, there being no objection, the financial report was accepted. He then presented and led a discussion of the Proposed Budget for 2017-18, a copy of which was attached to the Agenda. The</p>				

<p>endowment funds have done well of late. Actual net income for 2017 was below the budgeted amount. Fellows' pledge income has been lower, as most Fellows cease to give after attaining the level. We need to work to increase income. The new budget as initially proposed showed a loss for 2017-18 in excess of \$12,000. He recommended moving money out of the "Special Projects" account into the general checking account. Diane DeVasto noted the need to communicate with prior donors, particularly those significant donors from the "Gala" year, concerning how we have spent Foundation money and the impact upon the community. Possibilities that were discussed included a Facebook page, online annual report, or President's letter. John Berry suggested a letter be sent to past donors giving them an update, and Amy Ames suggested that the Fellows Committee consider this further. It was also suggested that the Fellows Committee consider ways to encourage continued giving by Fellows to attain higher levels. Deborah noted that although we should work to increase Fellow's support next year, we should not be disappointed if pledges do not increase, as conditions in the legal market have changed with recent decisions related to patent litigation. Ways to revise the Proposed Budget concerning income and expenses were discussed and it was recommended that the income line for "Fellows Donations" be increased from \$9,000.00 to \$16,000.00, the expense line for "Fellows-Reception" be reduced from</p>	<p>A motion was made to close the "Special Projects" account at Regions Bank and deposit its balance in the general operating account at Regions Bank. Passed.</p> <p>A motion was made to accept the Proposed Budget with the recommended changes to the line items for Fellows Donations,</p>	<p>Deborah moved and Kelly Pace seconded.</p> <p>Deborah moved and Amy Ames seconded.</p>		
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<p>\$1500.00 to \$1000.00, the expense line for “Public Relations” be reduced from \$1000.00 to \$0.00, and that the line for “ETCF Designated Investment Net” be increased from \$10,000.00 to \$15,000.00.</p>	<p>Fellows-Reception, Public Relations and ETCF Designated Investment Net. Passed.</p>			
<p>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S REPORT Cristy’s written report was attached to the Agenda.</p>				
<p>ROUND ROBIN REFLECTIONS John Berry expressed his enjoyment of his service on the Board and his thought that the Foundation is in good hands. Andy again thanked John for all his help. Deborah encouraged all to attend the Annual State Bar Convention in Dallas, and noted that she and Judge DeVasto will participate in a panel discussion at the Convention.</p>				

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, JULY 12, 2017