

Client Council Agenda

JUNE 13, 2017 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

CONFERENCE CALL INFORMATION:

Phone Number: 1-866-352-0426

Conference ID: 3936546084

1. Introductions & Roll Call
2. Approval of Minutes
3. President's Report
4. Repopulating Subcommittees
5. Pledge Support
6. Annual Conference topics
7. Client Newsletter Update – (new spring/summer issue)
8. Review new Client Brochure
9. LSC Discussion
10. Possible Facebook group
11. Wrap-up/Adjourn

CLIENT COUNCIL ROSTER

JUNE 13, 2017 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Regina Kelly (Chair), Regina Kelly Foundation

Shawntelle Fisher, The SoulFisher Ministries

Catherine Harris, Greater Boston Legal Services

Harry Johnson, Indiana Legal Services, Inc.

Ben Obregon, Legal Action of Wisconsin, Inc.

Rosita Stanley, National Legal Aid & Defender Association

Client Council Minutes

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2017 – 5:15PM

Present: Regina Kelly (Chair), Catherine Harris, Harry Johnson, Rosita Stanley

Absent: Shawntelle Fisher, Ben Obregon

Others: Chandra Nicholson, Maria Soto, Jo-Ann Wallace, Jenna Welch

ROLL CALL

Jenna Welch conducted the roll call.

CHAIRS REPORT

Regina Kelly initiated the conversation by reviewing the agenda and the recently-approved bylaws changes around the Client Council terms of service. In light of the new changes, she suggested it would be helpful to revisit the Client Council leadership positions that were filled at the November meeting.

RECAP OF BYLAWS

Jo-Ann Wallace suggested conducting a teleconference prior to the board meeting to discuss governance issues in more detail.

Rosita Stanley proposed having a conversation around LSC and the funding impact. Wallace instructed motioned to amend the agenda with the update on LSC following staff updates. Harry Johnson seconded the motion. All approved.

Wallace reported on the approval of the bylaws changes and expressed her sincere thanks to everyone who helped to move the process along to promote voting among client members. She declared the changes to the bylaws were official as of April 20, 2017 and that most of the changes are at the board and policy group level. There are 13 appointed slots that will be occupied to achieve the strategic goals of the organization. The 13 appointed-at-large positions are appointments by the board Chair. Some positions currently filled are Alex Gulotta, Gary Windom, Rosita Stanley, Steve Eppler-Epstein, Andrea Bridgeman, and Kelli Thompson.

Wallace also discussed her plans to meet with the Leadership Development Committee to discuss implementing an earlier election cycle. She concluded by stating that nothing has changed with how client positions are filled, and that she wants clients to stay engaged.

REVIEW OF CLIENT COUNCIL ROSTER AND TERMS

Maria Soto presented the updated client roster. Soto agreed to further discuss the committees and available positions with Kelly after the call to formulate a plan for revisiting these positions in the near future.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE TOPICS

Kelly suggested reviving topics from their popular past workshops to continue conversations around those topics. Stanley also suggested reviewing past session evaluations for suggestions of new topics, such as a session around health care and seniors. Johnson proposed a session on Affordable Healthcare, and Harris recommended a session on Pro Bono Lawyering. Soto advised that as discussions around session topics progress, Brian Peterkin-Vertanesian will join to discuss Annual Conference and evaluations.

CLIENT UPDATE NEWSLETTER

Welch inquired on who will take the lead on the next issue of the client newsletter and if anyone had specific topics or articles for the next issue. Rosita suggested coordinating with Marcy Muller and Theron McNeill to find out if any articles left over from previous issues might be revisited. Other suggested article topics included health care law, the bylaws changes, immigration, and the serious impact of the Legal Services Corporation (LSC) funding being eliminated. Stanley volunteered to write the article on LSC funding (with support from staff). It was also suggested that the Client Update include a recurring “Legislative Update” column to cover this and related topics.

Welch suggested highlighting the award winners to bring attention to the website, either in this issue or a future issue.

FACEBOOK GROUP

Kelly raised the idea of creating a client-focused Facebook group to foster connections within and promote the work of the client community. Wallace recommended revisiting this suggestion once a new Communications Director was in place to direct social media strategy and oversee this work.

OTHER BUSINESS

Wallace advised waiting until the next meeting to have the LSC conversation, and to approve the minutes and new agenda.

Kelly asked the client council to update the membership department with all their current contact information.

WRAP-UP AND ADJOURN

Kelly adjourned the meeting 6:30PM.

CLIENT COUNCIL REPORT

JUNE 13, 2017 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM

Below is a summary of the work that is currently underway for client members in conjunction with the Client Council, following the governance transition from Harry Johnson to Regina Kelly as the new client council Chair.

The Client Council is currently brainstorming conference topics for session workshops for the upcoming 2017 Annual conference. Topic ideas that have been discussed revolve around client leadership development, affordable health care, seniors, and pro bono lawyering, along with building off of the more popular client workshops from the 2016 Annual Conference. Some of those workshops include, “Leadership is Everybody’s Business”, facilitated by Chuck Wynder, and “Holistic Adjustment of Mind, Body, and Family after Returning Home from Prison”, facilitated by Eddie Ellis, Shawntelle Fisher, and Regina Kelly.

In an effort to grow client membership, NLADA will be conducting a 2017 client recruitment campaign later this year. Following extensive outreach related to the recent NLADA Bylaws changes, some lapsed and expired clients rejoined, having previously fallen out of contact with NLADA. Although this was not a recruitment effort, it did return some long-standing members who value their membership and want to be involved, and stay included. Realizing the cause of this missed engagement was outdated information, Membership has started the process of collecting updated contact information for the clients, which we hope will foster further client membership growth.

Additionally, a new brochure for Client Membership is in the final stage of production to the membership category both to client members and to program leaders.