

May 2016 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at: 6:00pm

Meeting Adjourned at: 6:57pm

Number of Members in Attendance: 79

Motion made and approved to accept Minutes from the March 2016 Meeting without a reading.

MEMBER LIST

At the end of 2015, we had 488 members. At the beginning of this meeting we have 436 dues paying members for 2016.

WEB PAGE UPDATE

The webpage is and has been up and running. Not everyone has registered his or her information on the page. Please do so.

To register/update your webpage information you need to:

- 1) Go to westshorebarassoication.org**
- 2) Click on "Current Membership"**
- 3) Click on "Attorney Website Information Form" (fill in PDF and submit)**
- 4) Complete all fields (by tabbing), including "Areas of Practice"**
- 5) Once completed, click on "Submit by Email" in the upper right corner of the form or save the form to your computer and then send it as an attachment to an email to wsbarassociation@aol.com**

LISTSERV/GMAIL ALERT

If you are not receiving notifications, please let us know so we can pass your information onto the web designers. LISTSERV is a huge benefit of being a member of WSBA.

Some new issues are arising with gmail Accounts. If you have a gmail account and are not getting LISTSERV, it is most likely an issue with your personal settings. It appears gmail initiated some security adjustments that are interfering with your usage of LISTSERV. You will need to go into your personal gmail account and check/re-set some of the settings.

Some of you have had your personal emails hacked/phished. Some of those have resulted in some of your fellow members receiving unwanted emails. The best way to protect yourself and those on your personal disbursement lists is to change your password on your personal email accounts. As of today, there have been no issues created by anyone hacking into LISTSERV. This is a personal email account issue.

CLE's

Our 2016 CLE's are being planned by our CLE committee. Our CLE Committee is made up of Members Joe Burke, Tim Clemens, Veronica Dever, Ashley Loyke, Chris Murray, and Drue Skyard. The committee has set the agenda for our 2016 CLE's. More information will be communicated as the process continues.

All of our CLE's are held at Umerly Hall, which is across the parking lot from the Rocky River Court. Members are charged \$50 and non-members are charged \$75 for each CLE. Announcements will be posted on our web page, on the Rocky River Court's web page, and notices will be sent electronically.

Periodically, we also have opportunities to attend other CLE's. We will do our best to keep everyone informed when those opportunities arise.

**For 2016, the following dates have been reserved at Umerly:
June 24, 2016 (Basics of Domestic Relations Law and Practice)
August 19, 2016 (Basics of Probate Law and Practice)
September 30, 2016 (OVI Law and Practice)
November 11, 2016 (Veterans' Day/Vendor Fair)
December 2, 2016 (Ethics and Professionalism)**

2015 MONTHLY GENERAL MEETING DATES

**Tuesday June 7, 2016 (Cookout at The Beachcliff)
Tuesday September 6, 2016
TBD Clam Bake/General Meeting
Tuesday November 1, 2016 (National General Elections November 8th)
Tuesday December 13, 2016 (Holiday Party)**

TREASURER'S REPORT FROM TERRI LASTOVKA

Previous Balance March 31, 2016		\$13,592.33
Deposits		
02/02/16 Meeting (78 members)	\$780.00	
Dues collected	\$625.00	
Raffle Sales	\$128.00	
Total Deposits		\$1,533.00
Payments		
Beachcliff for Meeting	(\$722.00)	
Beachcliff Server	(\$38.00)	
Umerly Hall Deposit for CLE's	(\$625.00)	
Softball Forfeit Fees	(\$140.00)	
Banking Supplies	(\$7.94)	
Raffle Winner- Member Stan Stein (donated back to Social Committee \$64.00)	(\$0.00)	
Total Payments		(\$1,582.94)
Net Increase (Decrease)		(\$49.94)
Balance as of April 30, 2016		\$13,542.39

Motion made and approved to accept the Treasurer's Report.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT:

This past Sunday was the first Chili/Soup Kickoff Competitions 1st Place overall to Judge Hagan. 1st Place Soup to Clare Long and 1st Place Chili John Grauer We had 30 attendees.

Upcoming Events:

- 1) This Saturday May 7 @ 6:00pm Kentucky Derby Watch Party at BW3 in Fairview Park.**
- 3) June 16 CYC event is being planned by Lynn Lazzaro.**
- 4) June 21, 2016 Cleveland Indians game in Conjunction with the Cleveland Marshall Alumni Association being planned by Joe Jerome**
- 5) Possible July Family Outing at Swings and Things being planned by Amanda Hawkins**
- 6) July Corporate Challenge being planned by Nick Froning**

NEW LAWYER COMMITTEE REPORT:

Chair Leigh Prugh reported the discussion this evening was about the fears of being a new lawyer. Judge Hagan participated by providing his

experience, insight and assurances to those practicing in the Courts. An invitation was extended to Judge Hagan to participate in future New Lawyer Committee Meetings. An invitation has been extended to ALL members to sit in and participate in these meetings. They begin at 5:00pm at the Beachcliff immediately preceding our Monthly Meetings.

NEW BUSINESS FROM MEMBERS

Member Leigh Prugh asked if there was interest in planning any “Ladies Only” events for WSBA Members. She asked for anyone interested to contact her directly by email at lsp0072852@gmail.com.

Member Amelia Leonard advised that she is the Chair for the Women in Law (WIL) section of the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association (CMBA). She encouraged our Members to join and become active in the CMBA. She also encouraged our female Members to Join the CMBA WIL section.

CANDIDATES

The following WSBA Members, who are Candidates for Judge, addressed those in attendance at the Meeting:

Tonya Jones, Candidate for Common Pleas/Domestic Relations

Kelly Gallagher, Candidate for Common Pleas/General

Andrea Nelson-Moore, Candidate for Common Pleas/General

Judge John Russo, Candidate for Common Pleas/General

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS:

We welcomed ten new members to the WSBA. They are:

1) Sarah Bednoska, 2) Will Eadie, Brian Evans, 3) Trish Geraghty, 4) Tonya Jones, 5) Karri King, 6) Andrea Nelson-Moore, 7) Britt Newman, 8) Ami Patel, 9) Samantha Vajskop, 10) Joseph Volpe.

SPEAKER:

WSBA Member, Judge John Russo, Administrative and Presiding Judge for all four Divisions of the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court

Judge Russo has been a Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Judge for 12 years. For the last 3 years, Judge Russo has been elected, by his peers, as the Administrative and Presiding Judge.

Judge Russo oversees a \$60 Million Budget

The largest Department within the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court is the Probation department with 210 Employees.

110,000 individuals go through the Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court System each year.

By October of 2016, it is a goal of the Court to have rolled out a Strategic Plan.

Assigned Counsel Fees account for 13% of the Courts' budget.

By Law, the Executive Branch funds the Courts.

Judge Russo is moving the Court forward by addressing needs, efficiencies and reforms.

Judge Russo is promoting transparency tools such as providing public Monthly Court Reports.

The Court, to assist users wherein English is not their primary language, is developing a Website translator for greater access to dockets into other languages.

First Appearance Docket (FAD) is now being used for Criminal cases.

Development and continued use of Dual Diagnosis' Courts, Mental Health Courts, Re-Entry Court, and Veterans' Court are providing more streamlined justice for users of the Courts.

Preliminary work is being completed to look into the possible relocation and County Courts, Municipal Court and County Jail. Locations throughout the County are being reviewed.

During the Republican National Convention (RNC), with the exception of jail arraignments, all Courts will be closed. Judge Russo and a small staff will do arraignments. In the event of potential mass arrests, available jail space is being addressed throughout the County by all

agencies and Courts. Prosecutors, Public Defenders, ACLU Lawyers, Municipal Courts, City and Suburban Police Departments, and County Law Enforcement are working with National Security Teams to ensure a smooth operation during the RNC.

50/50

New Member, Ami Patel won \$44.00

ADJOURNMENT