

**NEW YORK STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
ENTERTAINMENT, ARTS & SPORTS LAW SECTION**

Executive Committee Meeting – April 1, 2020 12:30 –2:00pm

Minutes of EASL EC Meeting

Attending by Virtual Conference/Telephone: Jeffrey G. Aber, Dana Alamia, Anne S. Atkinson, Jason P. Baruch, Judith Bass, Ethan Bordman, Brian Caplan, Isaro Carter, Paul Cossu, Gabrielle Costa, Cheryl Davis, Dana DiGiuseppe, Joan Faier, Donna Frosco, Kristin Gaines, Les Greenbaum, Elissa Hecker, Marc Jacobson, Kathy Kim, Christine-Marie Lauture, Jared R. Leibowitz, Bennett Liebman, Diane F. Krausz, Anne LaBarbera, Paul LiCalsi, Jill Pilgrim, Judith Prowda, Sarah Robertson, Stephen Rodner, Andrew Seiden, Robert Seigel, Judah Shapiro, Barry Skidelsky, Simone Smith, Carol Steinberg, Tiffany Tsai, Rosemarie Tully, and Barry Werbin.

1. Welcome.

Barry Werbin (EASL Chair) called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance. Barry Werbin introduced Dana Alamia as the new EASL liaison to NYSBA. The Chair also introduced Jeff Aber as the new Co-Chair of the Sports Committee.

2. Approval of Minutes.

Barry asked that if anyone had any comments or changes to the minutes of the last EASL EC meeting held on March 4, 2020 to forward comments, and then the minutes could be approved on-line after any revisions were made on an “as needed” basis.

3. Chair’s Report.

3.1. Diversity Committee

The Chair stated that the NYSBA had an online meeting regarding diversity and provided a report on the topic which the EC should review. He suggested that the Diversity Committee Chairs should review the proposal and provide comments at an upcoming EC meeting.

Barry Skidelsky attended that online meeting on March 19, 2020 in which such topics as diversity, the website, coronavirus and its effect on the practice of law were discussed, and he relayed that \$1 million in revenue has been lost but NYSBA is “rock solid.” NYSBA is looking at Sections to create content for online CLE and which can be monetized as well as topics related to coronavirus such as wills.

3.2 Website.

The Chair stated that there have been some technical problems with the revamped NYSBA website. NYSBA has requested comments and feedback regarding the website.

Barry Skidelsky stated that he co-chaired a virtual meeting of the Virtual Bar Caucus and a report was sent to NYSBA regarding the website. NYSBA has stated that there are website problems concerning registration logins and navigation.

Barry Werbin requested that the EC Committee Chairs check their own respective rosters as well as the NYSBA website in general and contact him and Dana Alamia with any changes.

The Chair stated that if there are committees that require dial-in information for their meetings, that information can be sent to committee members via the committee members' e-mails by the co-chairs or through Dana Alamia. Dana Alamia stated that she could coordinate access to the NYSBA Zoom account with co-chairs wanting to use it for virtual programming.

Jill Pilgrim asked about holding "community" meetings for Committees. Dana Alamia said this could be done and she will check into it for EC Committee members.

4. Committee Reports.¹

4.1 Publications.

Elissa Hecker stated that the upcoming edition of the EASL Journal will be in June with galleys ready in May.

4.2 Pro Bono.

Elissa Hecker stated that there was a successful symposium concerning dance in March but there was no clinic due to coronavirus concerns.

4.3 Fine Arts.

Carol Steinberg stated that the Arts Westchester program co-sponsored by the Fine Arts Committee and Westchester Arts has been cancelled.

4.4 Sports.

Jill Pilgrim stated that the Dispute Resolution Section would have a sports dispute resolution committee. She inquired whether EASL would have an issue with that given the overlap between EASL and the Dispute Resolution Sections.

The Chair stated that he did not have an issue regarding a sports dispute resolution committee being within the Dispute Resolution Section and not the EASL Section. He suggested

¹. All in person events at least through May have since been cancelled due to the Covid-19 and the NYS shutdown.

that the two sections co-sponsor a program concerning sports law and dispute resolution as part of more co-sponsored programs in the future so a wider membership audience can be reached.

Regardless of whether it would be part of the Spring Meeting, Jill Pilgrim suggested that there be a program concerning the impact of Covid-19 on sports programming in general which could address such issues as business interruption due to Covid-19 and the legal and economic effects. She further commented that the proposed e-sports program, co-sponsored by the Diversity Committee and hosted by the Metropolitan Black Bar Association, became a webinar.

4.5 ADR.

Judith Prowda noted there would be a May 7th virtual ADR Committee meeting [which has been rescheduled for Thursday, June 11th with Simeon Baum to be the speaker].

5. Programs and Events

The Chair stated that in-person programming has been cancelled or postponed for the foreseeable future including the upcoming Spring Meeting. The Chair stated that the recent Pro Bono Committee symposium concerning dance is an example of how EASL can create online programming for content and membership outreach, especially given the fact that members have the time to attend such programming that is not limited to coronavirus issues.

Anne Atkinson asked whether we could do virtual non-CLE programs. Dana Alamia said that can be done, and that she will help facilitate both CLE and non-CLE programs.

Dana Alamia stated that there can be webinars in which members can ask questions and listen in. CLE written materials could be provided for such webinars (since written materials are required for CLE credit). Some webinars need not have CLE credit. For CLE credit, webinars would have codes that are imbedded in the webinars' PowerPoint and stated orally (Simone Smith with NYSBA CLE can arrange to operate this for us or we can operate it ourselves if there is only one speaker). The webinars would be available on-demand. Dana recommended that there could be some virtual "happy hour" quarantine meetings (via Zoom) that could last 30-60 minutes in which members could discuss problems and issues of interest to them, such as home-schooling children and matters concerning law and its practice.

5.1 Annual Theater Law Program.

Jason Baruch stated the annual EASL/CTI Theater Producing event is tentatively postponed until September 2020.

5.2 Spring Meeting and Other meeting Ideas.

Since the in-person Spring Meeting has been cancelled, the Chair suggested that there could be a virtual Spring Program in which talks and panels could be divided into sections. Stephen Rodner has confirmed that Stan Soocher is willing and available to give his "Annual

Year In Entertainment” review of important legal issues online this year. There also could be a virtual panel concerning the issue of California Assembly Bill-5 (AB-5), which recently passed [AB-5 distinguishes between the classification of workers as employees or independent contractors]. Diane Krausz and Cheryl Davis (with Stephen Rodner) would continue to plan such virtual panel.

Jill Pilgrim advocated for a panel concerning the Olympics but noted that it may have to wait until next year since the Summer Olympics have been postponed to next year due to coronavirus.

The Chair stated that a virtual Spring Program in the form of two or more panels would be sometime in May or June 2020 and suggested that the programs could be purchased separately or as a series with perhaps a discount.

6. Miscellaneous.

Judith Bass suggested a possible EASL program concerning the impact of the coronavirus on the entertainment industry in general and live events, such as concerts, theatre, film and television in particular. Insurance concerns could be discussed as well.

7. Adjournment. Upon motion unanimously approved, the EC meeting was adjourned at 1:48 p.m.

The next EASL EC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 13, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert L. Seigel, EASL Secretary