

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

Executive Committee Virtual Meeting – (Wednesday) February 9, 2022 at 12:30 PM

Minutes of EASL EC Meeting

Attending by Virtual Conference/Telephone: Anne Atkinson, Anne LaBarbera, Arlen Appelbaum, Barry Skidelsky, Barry Werbin, Bob Seigel, Brian Caplan, Carol J. Steinberg, Cheryl Davis, Christine-Marie Lauture, David Friedlander, Diane Krausz, Donna Frosco, Elissa D. Hecker, Ethan Bordman, Imraan Farukhi, Innes Smolansky, Isaro Carter, Jason Baruch, Jeff Aber, Joan Faier, Judah Shapiro, Judith Bass, Kathy Kim, Merissa Pico, Nyasha Foy, Pat Stockli, Paul Cossu, Paul LiCalsi, Phillip Hurwitz, Rosemarie Tully, Sarah Robertson, Sharmin Woodall, Steve Rodner, Steven H. Richman

- 1) Approval of January 2022 Meeting Minutes – *Isaro Carter, Sec.; Barry Werbin, Chair; Carol Steinberg, Ass't Secretary.*

Ethan Bordman (EASL Chair) called the Zoom virtual meeting to order and welcomed everyone in attendance. Last-minute revisions were addressed, and the January minutes were deemed approved with the corrections addressed.

- 2) EASL Journal Status – *Elissa Hecker*

Elissa reported that the EASL Journal has been in for a few weeks and she is currently editing the transcript that is to go in the next issue. Elissa also said that the issue is very big, should be published in April, and she is starting to collect articles for the next issue. She is particularly interested in collecting articles about Title IX for the next issue in honor of its 50th anniversary.

The deadline for submissions for the Sports issue is currently mid-late April.

- 3) Upcoming Pro Bono Clinic and Panel – *Elissa Hecker, Carol Steinberg*

Elissa reported the clinic is still scheduled for March 17th but the time has changed from 12-2 pm to 1-3 pm. It is still a two-hour window, it will just be occurring later in the day. The email blast for this event is going out on February 10th and there are only 10 seats available and 2 people have already filled those seats. Elisa instructed all interested to email her directly.

Carol let us know that the panel in April is a collaboration between the Pro Bono Committee and the Fine Arts Committee. They will be talking about licensing and how it affects artists (fine and commercial) on April 7th from 12:30-2 pm, on Zoom. Paul Cossu and Judith Prowda are planning it along with Carol. They also already have the panelists lined up for this panel with Paul moderating.

4) EASL Law Students Meet and Greet Recap - *Les Greenbaum, Paul Cossu, Sarah Robertson*

Paul reported that the event went well—the students were engaged and had good questions. The Chair reported that he'd draft an email to get out to the law students that were in attendance.

The Chair also asked Barry Werbin about any past mentorship initiatives that may have been conducted in the past. Barry responded that nothing came of it in the past. Anne Atkinson added that the diversity committee has also tried in the past, and it was tough as it was a much bigger endeavor than imagined. Anne LaBarbera said that she is part of an organization with an excellent system for mentorship, and if EASL is going to try it again, someone from the EC could talk to them about it.

5) Financial Report – *Kathy Kim*

This report has been tabled until the March meeting. Kathy Kim also let us know that we don't have the December 2021 financials yet.

6) Annual meeting 2022 reports:

a) Cowan Bresler Scholarship Competition - Ethan Bordman, Christine M. Lauture

Ethan reported there were 12 submissions that they were able to get down to a final 4—two of them are tied at the same score. The two winners were Diana Johnson, 3L, St. John's University and Michael Fasciale, 3L, Seton Hall. The checks were sent to accounting and should be dispersed soon.

Barry Werbin raised the issue of the mock digital checks being made payable to the students themselves and the students likely assuming that the checks would be going directly to them. Pat Stockli said that she would check on the status of the checks but that she believes the checks are being made payable to the students individually and not to the schools.

b) NFTs in the Arts, Sports, Fashion, and Entertainment Industries – Louise Carron, Judith Prowda, Carol Steinberg

Carol Steinberg reported that the panel went very well—Louise was a fantastic moderator. There was great feedback, though it was noted the feedback forms were not specific enough for attendees to share what they liked about the event. That said, it was a lively panel. Barry Werbin agreed, it was a great panel, and attendees (himself included) were very engaged.

c) Accessibility, Visibility, and Disability in Entertainment Media and the Performing Arts - Judith Bass, Elissa Hecker

Judith reported that the panel was fantastic. The conversation was well done and hopefully eye-opening for the attendees. Judith mentioned how it was a challenge to

get a few things done with the event being so close to the holidays. She also noted the evaluation forms for the event should be more substantive.

Pat Stockli shared with the EC that NYSBA is looking to hire three new people because the organization recognizes that the sections need more support.

Elissa Hecker added that there was feedback from the panelists and even from people not on the panel about using ableist language. This is an excellent reason to continue programming like this to better educate people on all the different ways people live and exist in our industry without othering anyone unnecessarily.

Judith added that she posted a link to the replay of the event on LinkedIn, and it received a lot of traffic. She mentioned that this might be an avenue of promotion EASL should be exploring. Barry Werbin agreed and reminded the EC of the EASL LinkedIn profile—we should all be following it and sharing the posts about events and other happenings.

d) College Sports Chaos or Correction; From Alston to NIL to Conference Realignment to 50 Years of Title IX - Jill Pilgrim, Jeff Aber

Jeff Aber reported that this two-hour program was very engaging—the time practically flew by. The panelists had glowing feedback and were very enthusiastic about having the opportunity to learn from each other.

Elissa Hecker asked if the Sports Lawyer’s Association logo should be in the Annual Meeting Transcript. Jeff Aber said that it would be a good idea so that the logo will be in the transcript in the next issue of the EASL Journal.

7) District Representatives – Review Districts (6th, 10th, and 12th)

The Chair addressed that we are missing Representatives for the 6th, 10th, and 12th districts. He asked if anyone who knows anyone interested in the positions or whether we should send out a mass email about the open positions.

Rosemarie Tully reported that she sent out an invitation to someone for the 10th district; she’s just giving them some time to respond. That said, she does have two backups.

Rosemarie also let us know that Imraan Farukhi and David Friedlander are new representatives, and they are in attendance. They are joined by additional new representatives Nyasha Foy, Innes Smolansy, Bennett Liebman, Edward Flink, David Faux, Daniel Marotta, and Phillip Hurwitz. They all briefly took a moment to introduce themselves—we are delighted to have them join us! A mass email will be sent out to section members for the remaining districts that remain unrepresented.

8) Committee/Program Reports/Updates (ad hoc)

a) Motion Picture Committee

The Chair mentioned stepping down from the Motion Picture Committee as Co-chair to open the opportunity to another EASL member and he has been in contact with someone who may be interested in taking over. The Chair anticipates a response from this person soon.

For the Spring Meeting, the Chair has spoken to Bob Seigel about having a one-hour program on diversity regarding the Academy Awards given the recent changes. They are thinking of having a panel featuring representatives from the different unions (e.g., Producer's Guild, Director's Guild, Motion Picture Association of America) to speak on the diversity programs each organization is initiating to encourage opportunities in the entertainment industry. There are tentative dates in the second and third weeks of May. Anne Atkinson suggested adding SAG-AFTRA in the conversation—the Chair confirmed that they are including them. As of now, this committee is open to any suggestions.

b) Steve Rodman agreed to reach out to Stan Soocher again for the Spring Meeting this year.

c) The Chair mentioned an email he received--the Young Lawyers Section would like two reps from our Law Student Committee to liaise between EASL and the Young Lawyers Section. The liaisons have to be a member of the Young Lawyers Section, no more than ten years in practice, and the position will start June 2022. The Chair will send any applications to those who know anyone interested. Anne LaBarbera let us know that there is an open position for Secretary on the Young Lawyers section.

d) Rosemarie let us know that she is interested in doing MBLC again this year, and we'll start talking about it in the next meeting.

9) Other Initiatives and New Business

Barry Werbin reported that Robert Haig called him to ask whether EASL's EC would review the substantive sections of the Commercial Litigation treatise that address intellectual property, entertainment law, art law, and other related areas and then have that objective review published in the EASL Journal. The person who reviews the section will get a free set of the entire treatise (\$1800 value).

Elissa Hecker mentioned that we must ensure that this review is not an advertisement. She suggested that Sharmin check in with NYSBA to make sure this would be approved. If approved, Elissa says she's happy to work with others on that. Bob Seigel mentioned that the EASL Journal used to do book reviews without a problem.

10) Chair's Remarks

Our new Chair, Ethan Bordman, let us know that EASL is off to a good start this year. He knows that we have to start planning events as soon as possible. He also shared that one of his keys is to increase membership and, in an effort to do so, he is trying to speak at as many events as possible.

11) Future EC Meetings - Save the Date:

The next EASL EC Meeting will be Wednesday, March 9th, 2022, from 12:30 pm – 2 pm.

Future Meeting Dates are as follows:

April 6th, 2022

May 4th, 2022

June 1st, 2022

July/August – No meeting

September 7th, 2022

October 12th, 2022

November 2nd, 2022

December 7th, 2022

12) Adjournment. The EC meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Isaro Carter, EASL Secretary