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

**MINUTES**

**Executive Committee Virtual Meeting  
March 6, 2024 at 12:30pm ET**

**Attending by Virtual Conference/Telephone**: Andrew H. Seiden; Anne Atkinson; Barry Skidelsky; Barry Werbin; Brian Caplan; Cheryl Davis; Christine-Marie Lauture; David Friedlander; Diane Krausz; Ethan Bordman; Ezra Doner; iPad (98); Innes Smolansky; Isaro Carter, Esq.; Jake Dore; Jason Baruch; JUDAH SHAPIRO; Judith Bass; Kyle-Beth Hilfer; Larry Sapadin; Elissa D. Hecker; Louise Carron; Marc Jacobson; Phillip R. Hurwitz; PliCalsi; Robert Seigel; Rosemarie Tully; Sarah Robertson; Sharmin Woodall.

1. **Approval of February 2024 Meeting Minutes (Annual Meeting)** – (Christine-Marie Lature, Secretary, Sarah Robertson Chair, Louise Carron, Asst. Secretary)

* The motion to approve the February 2024 minutes passes.

1. **EASL Journal** – (Elissa Hecker)

* The next issue is done (about 100 pages, including the Annual Meeting transcripts) and will be circulated online and in print in the next few weeks.
* The deadline for submissions for the following issue is April 12th, 2024.

1. **Pro-Bono Committee Report** – (Elissa Hecker, Jack Dore)

* The next Pro Bono clinic will be on April 5th, 2024 in Huntington, LI.
* The committee will be working with the Bishop Gallery (Bed-Stuy) for quarterly programming (copyright, licensing, VARA, art estates), as well as the Brooklyn Arts Council (programming and/or clinics not yet confirmed).

1. **Financial Report** – (Isaro Carter, Treasurer)

* There are no new updates to report as we are still waiting for the audit to be completed and for numbers to be updated.
* Membership renewal reminders are sent out by email, with a 3-month grace period.

1. **Speaker Expense Reimbursement Written Policy - Update** – (Sarah Robertson, Chair)

* There will be a written policy on speakers’ expense reimbursement, to make it simpler for panel organizers. Sarah Robertson will circulate a draft.
* Sarah Robertson emphasized prioritizing New York State-based speakers, which aligns with the Section’s mandate.

1. **New LinkedIn Account for EASL; Reminder of Existing Twitter Account** – (Sarah Robertson, Chair)

* Sarah Robertson would like for NYSBA to create an EASL page on LinkedIn to promote events.
* NYSBA requires sections seeking to obtain a LinkedIn page to identify the following:
  + Who is our target audience?
  + Why does your section need their own account?
  + Five potential Hashtags and five series – what hashtags and recurring themes will you post to create direct information exchanges? – The EC would need to agree as a group on what hashtags to use (possibly inquire with the Young Lawyers Committee).
  + How will you deal with negative responses to posts?
* Sarah Robertson will fill out the form and circulate it for the EC’s input.

1. **Spring Meeting Planning – Next Steps** – (Sarah Robertson, Chair)

* As first steps, the EC needs to pick a Chair and/or Planning Committee and look for a date, keeping in mind other events that are happening. Ethan Bordman shared that the Motion Picture Committee usually sponsors the Spring Meeting, often held in May (before Memorial Day). The EC would keep 100% of the revenues. Barry Werbin expressed that 2 months is not a lot of time to plan the Spring Meeting, including choosing the planning committee, potential panel topics and speakers. A June meeting date was discussed.
* Speakers:
  + In the past, Prof. Stan Soocher has done an “Entertainment Law Year in Review” and the EC could invite him again or look for other speakers. Ezra Doner is in support of inviting someone else this year, noting that it is a considerable ask considering the amount of preparation work (or we can focus on identifying speakers who are scholars and are already up to date on the state of entertainment law). Barry Skidelsky mentioned that we could find an attorney at one of the law firms who put out an annual entertainment law review, which Ezra Doner volunteered to contact and try to find an alternate over the next few weeks before reaching out to Prof. Stan Soocher.
  + Sarah Robertson asked whether we could leverage EASL’s own content and blog posts for topics.
  + Robert Siegel mentioned that guild issues are topical, though they were planning to do a standalone, one-hour, non-CLE brown bag talk in April, *WGA, SAG-AFTRA, and DGA: The 2023 Strikes and Highlights of the New Agreements* (tentative title) (currently scheduled for April 25, 2024), but offered to include it in the Spring Meeting. Ezra Doner suggested inviting a journalist, Anne Atkinson recommended Julia Alexander from Punch (who covered the strikes), as well as Matthew Belloni and Eriq Gardner.
* Timing: Sarah Robertson proposed pushing back the meeting to early June, which would have to be scheduled around the Copyright Society mid-year Meeting.
* In the next week or two, the EC will look to put folks in charge of planning.

1. **NYSBA Task Force on AI - Report and Recommendations from the NYSBA Task Force on Artificial Intelligence - comments solicited** – (Sarah Robertson, Chair)

* EASL was solicited for comments on NYSBA’s Task Force on AI. Report was attached in the meeting materials. If you have any comments, please submit them this week and reach out to Barry Werbin, Judith Bass, or Sarah Robertson. The deadline for comments is March 18th, 2024.
* Judith Bass raised that the risk section does not include any mention of copyright issues.

1. **Program on AI and Live Stage (tonight)** – (Jason Baruch)

* Jason Baruch gave an update that Davis, Wright, Tremaine is hosting an event on AI and live stage and offering free CLE (live only; no Zoom access).

1. **Recap of February Events**

* *Law Student in the Mix: An EASL Networking Event* – February 15th (Kristin Paradisis)
* *The Future of ADR in Sports* – February 27th - 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM virtual (Kyle-Beth Hilfer)
  + Panel included reps from the Olympic Committee, sports reporters, etc. There were about 41 sign-ups and 16 attendees. Kyle-Beth Hilfer had planned to make it free for hopes of boosting attendance.

1. **Upcoming Approved or Proposed Events**

* Proposed program *– WGA, SAG-AFTRA, and DGA: The 2023 Strikes and Highlights of the New Agreements* (tentative title) – currently scheduled for April 25th, 2024.
* Proposed program – [*High-Profile Arbitration & the Press: What About Confidentiality?*](https://www.google.com/url?sa=D&q=https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/0209CJ67kOH3PjwjtVFdbB/&ust=1709828760000000&usg=AOvVaw3phumSqKInpwBuM34qF9jk&hl=en&source=gmail) – Wednesday, May 15th, by the EASL ADR Committee, live promoted by the AAA.
  + Kyle-Beth Hilfer is planning to potentially offer this event as a CLE, however we may not want to charge for the event, as AAA events are often free. AAA would underwrite the cost of the reception.
  + Anne Atkinson mentioned that each committee has a budget of $750, so that can help with planning this event, and charging a small amount helps ensure that people who registered will come.
  + Sharmin Woodall explained that CLE events must be paid events. CLE is charged per person, per CLE credit, at each respective rate (EASL member - $40, NYSBA member - $50, non-NYSBA member - $100).
* Reminder to all EASL committee co-chairs that they can request up to $750 per year to use on committee purposes, e.g. in-person gatherings, on a use-it-or-lose-it basis, to encourage retention. Committee co-chairs should reach out to NYSBA before June in order to request the funds for next year. Budgeting should be brought up at the next monthly EC meetings. Judah Shapiro raised the need for a policy on committee expenses.
* Ethan Bordman shared that NYSBA is not willing to make the annual theater event an “Annual Event/Meeting” and will consider it a seasonal event for purposes of sharing CLE income with EASL.
* *Introduction to Entertainment* – Diane Krauz confirmed that expenses are covered by NYSBA (Diane will double-check) and raise what the best place and time is for this event. Moving it to September might be more interesting to law students and those studying for the bar, which will also help tout for memberships and the Cowan Bresler Scholarship Writing Competition.
* *Symphony of Courage* – March 12th, 2024 6:30-9pm at Baker Hostetler. Barry Skidelsky gave a summary of the upcoming special presentation of the documentary *Symphony of Courage*, led by the Friends of the Afghanistan National Institute of Music (ANIM) in partnership with EASL and other NYSBA Sections, offering 1-hour CLE program and networking reception ($25 for members of one of the sponsoring sections, $10 for students, $100 for non-NYSBA members). [RSVP here](https://nysba.org/events/symphony-of-courage/).
* Brian Caplan suggested a new proposed program on documentary filmmaking and production legal, in connection with the screening of [*The Oratorio*](https://www.pbs.org/show/oratorio-documentary-martin-scorsese/), narrated by Martin Scorsese. Anne Atkinson suggested framing the conversation as the birth of a documentary and a conversation with the producers.
* Ethan Bordman also raised a postponed co-sponsored program (offered by a law firm through a PR/ad agency): *What You Need to Know about Matrimonial Law and Estate Planning.* Anne Atkinson offered to ask some attorneys at her firm. Barry Skidelsky volunteered to plan the event in the fall, independently of any firm co-sponsor.

1. **New Business**

* Ethan Bordman reminded the EC that we need a decision on the deadline for applying to the Cowan Bresler Scholarship, to be further pushed back into possibly March/April. To be discussed next meeting.

1. **Dates of Future EC Meetings – Save the Date**

* Future Meeting Dates – Wednesdays 12:30pm – 2pm
  + April 3rd
  + May 1st
  + June 5th
  + July - NO Meeting
  + August - NO Meeting
  + September 4th
  + October 9th (Second Wed of the month. Moved as Religious Holiday on October 2nd)
  + November 6th
  + December 4th

The meeting is adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine-Marie Lauture, Secretary

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Louise Carron, Assistant Secretary