

**VICTORIA BAR ASSOCIATION
MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE OF MAY 20, 2008**

Meeting at the Barrister's Lounge called to order by Scott Farquhar at 5:05 pm.

Members present:

Scott Farquhar
Sue Wishart
Nisha Bathe
Michael Cooper
Renee Miller
Brooke MacLeod
Charlotte Salomon
Kerry Simmons
Susen Johnson
Richard Fyfe
Andrew Petter
Roxanne Helme
Richard Stewart

1. **MINUTES:** The minutes of the March 25, 2008 were approved by Renee Miller and seconded by Nisha Bathe.

2. **PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**
 - (a) There was a letter from Ken Walton stating he was impressed with Law Day. There was another letter from Berry Hykin and Michelle Kinnee thanking us for our support with Law Day.
 - (b) There is a call ceremony set for June 5 and there will be five candidates.

3. **VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT**
 - (a) There are 371 total members and 91 new or renewed members of the VBA.
 - (b) Michael Cooper has not heard back about the Victoria Legal Secretary's Association scholarship but he will follow up with them.

4. **TREASURER'S REPORT**
 - (a) Account balance as of May 20, 2008 - \$11585.49 – plus some membership fees and a profit from the spring dinner - it was moved by Richard Fyfe to approve the report and seconded by Kerry Simmons
 - (b) All of the furniture was fixed in the Barrister's Lounge and Charlotte Salomon has the bill.

5. SOCIAL EVENTS REPORT/CALENDAR

- (a) Lawyer/CA Tournament – about 6 lawyers and some guests are signed up – another e-mail will go out
- (b) Summer Dinner (Deep Cove Chalet)– one month away – almost 100 people signed up – it will sell out this week – it came up that we should honour a long standing member of the Bar – Connie Isherwood came up – 57 years called, so did others – there was discussion around who do we honour and why and when – it was decided that we would not be honouring anyone until we are more on the ball about it

6. **WEBSITE** – Nisha received a bill with respect to our website – also our domain name is expiring after nine years – Nisha has found a local company that is comparable in price for the year – It was moved by Kerry Simmons that we hire the local company and pay them for ten years for our domain name – Renee Miller seconded the motion

7. COURT LIAISON

- (a) Court registry says that we need better signage for the Criminal Registry being on the first floor
- (b) Commissioners state that we have to be careful after 5:00 to make sure the Courtney Street doors are closed and locked after leaving

8. COURT BOXES

- (a) The website has current changes to the court boxes and the court house directory will be changed when Kay Melbye returns.

9. LOCKERS

- (a) Kerry is working on getting the lockers being fixed by Emmerson's Locks

10. LAW DAY

- (a) Law Day went successfully
- (b) Berry Hykin will not be on the Committee next year so they are looking to fill her position
- (c) Berry and Michelle are just finalizing the receipts to see what is left

11. AWARDS

- (a) We have not received any nominations but there are some held from last year. A notice will be going out soon regarding nominations.

12. NEWSLETTER – tabled

13. BENCHER'S REPORT (Richard Stewart)

- (a) New Task Force being headed by Kathryn Berge regarding retaining women in the practice of law
- (b) New mandatory continuing education is coming out for January 1, 2009 – the education committee is rolling out the details for the July 2008 meeting

14. CBA REPORT

- (a) CBA Elections – Sue Wishart was acclaimed as one of elected reps for Victoria – at June 21 meeting there will be an election for the position of secretary/treasurer
- (b) CBA monitoring the Law Society mandatory continuing education hours to ensure that it is accessible as possible. This has been a big focus for them.

15. UVIC REPORT

- (a) UVic had a good homecoming event
- (b) Summer courses on international law this year
- (c) The renovations in 159 are under way
- (d) The final sign-off on the library design drawings will be next week and the construction in the library will hopefully start in August.
- (e) Donna Greshner, the incoming Dean will be there at the Deep Cove dinner.
- (f) UVic will be electing a new Chancellor
- (g) John Hunter has been chairing a national task force for the Federation of Law Societies – there is a concern about foreign credentials trying to practice in Canada and one of the other issues is credentials to get your law degree locally. This could change the face of legal education in Canada and the legal profession.

16. NEW BUSINESS

- (a) Sue Wishart will be taking one of the characateurs with her to make sure that they are all matching.
- (b) Next meeting will be June 19, 2008 at 5:00 at Deep Cove Chalet.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:00.