

Association of Corporate Counsel
Louisiana Chapter

Minutes
Board of Directors Meeting
November 14, 2008

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the La. Chapter of the Association of Corporate Counsel was held at the offices of Laitram Corporation on November 14, 2008. Board members in attendance were Dan Schwarzenbach, Franck Labiche, Brandt Lorio, Jim Moran and Randy Sutton.

The Board members welcomed Kelly Legier of the La. State Bar Association (LSBA) to discuss the benefits of initiating a Section of the LSBA for in-house corporate counsel. Ms. Legier advised that adding a new Section would require approval of the LSBA House of Delegates. She said that if a Section for in-house counsel were developed, the LSBA would provide some clerical support to the Section, which would be paid for out of Section dues. She also advised that the LSBA would handle dues collection, monetary transactions and accounting for the Section. She said that a Section is only restricted from engaging in activities that would jeopardize the LSBA's tax exempt status.

During the course of the conversation, Ms. Legier advised that the LSBA recognized Specialty Bars within the LSBA and that local lawyer's organizations that were part of national organizations were usually associated with the LSBA as Specialty Bars. Jim Moran advised that he had filled out an information sheet on the La. Chapter of ACC for the LSBA a couple of years ago. A check of the LSBA website revealed that the La. Chapter of ACC was already recognized by the LSBA as a Specialty Bar. The Board members were in agreement that maintaining the Chapter's Specialty Bar status was sufficient and preferable to Section status. Ms. Legier advised that due to the Chapter's Specialty Bar status, the La. Bar Journal would provide some free publicity to the La. Chapter by advertising membership information and upcoming events, and that the LSBA could also help with membership lists. Ms. Legier advised that she would update the information on the La. Chapter by removing the LSBA's link to the ACC national association and substituting the Chapter's link. It was also suggested by Brandt and Jim that some indication should be included in Chapter links or Chapter ads in the Bar Journal identifying the Chapter as an "in-house counsel Specialty Bar," or "for in-house attorneys."

Dan agreed to send Ms. Legier info on recent and upcoming Chapter activities for possible inclusion in the Bar Journal as a news item.

Ms. Legier solicited the Chapter's support for the LSBA Diversity Committee's conference to be held on March 13, 2009 at the New Orleans Hilton. The topic to be discussed at that function will be the manner in which La. companies select law firms for representation. Ms. Legier said that panelists and other types of support were needed.

After Ms. Legier's departure, Franck distributed an updated Treasurer's Report showing the current Chapter checking account balance of \$34,608.88.

Dan recapitulated the upcoming sponsored events as follows:

Phelps Dunbar will host the February CLE luncheon.

Jackson Lewis will host a spring social event.

Ogletree Deakins will sponsor a May CLE luncheon.

Kean Miller will sponsor a Baton Rouge CLE luncheon, probably in the Summer.

Galloway Johnson will sponsor the fall wine tasting.

Deutsch Kerrigan will sponsor lunch at the Chapter Annual Meeting held in conjunction with the (Loyola) all-day CLE event.

Fisher and Phillips will host the 2009 Christmas luncheon.

Dan said that Jackson Lewis wanted to mail a white paper on the pending Employee Free Choice Act re union organizing to the membership. As part of their 2009 sponsorship, the firm is entitled to one distribution to our chapter members.

Jim said that he would call Tori at ACC to add the Chapter's upcoming events with logos from sponsoring lawfirms.

The membership directory was discussed. Brandt suggested that we email the directory in a PDF format with advertisements from our sponsoring lawfirms. Jim said that he would provide the roster of members.

Possible uses for Chapter funds were discussed. Jim said that the Chapter might consider funding a scholarship or other award to a high school that wins the statewide moot court competition. Also, Jim suggested that the Spring Social event could be held at the Fairgrounds for a Saturday affair and Franck suggested Sunday when they had some type of function for kids so the whole family could come.

The Board also discussed preparing a budget for future expenditures.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:05PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Randy J. Sutton
Secretary