

FBA International Law Section

Executive Committee Minutes

February 21, 2018

In Attendance: Mimi Tsankov, John Thomas, Judith Wood, Stephanie Moncada Gomez, Beth Persky, Roger Kobert, Anthony Jones from the national office. Brian Murphy is in Bulgaria and unable to join.

Mimi welcomed John Thomas, who has been active in the FBA and has decided to join the International Law Section.

The most recent membership report shows 284 members. We are holding steady. We hold quarterly meetings at which we include the entire advisory board. On monthly calls we just have the executive committee.

John's proposal regarding the International Security Law Committee. John focuses on the False Claims Act and is also a Marine Corps Judge Advocate. In his reserve job he's an instructor for the law of war detachment. They teach classes on the Law of Armed Conflict including the Geneva Conventions, detainee operations, command responsibility including Nuremburg. John proposes a committee with a focus on International Security Law, the law of armed conflict, and accountability for violations of the law of war. He proposes collaboration with the Human Rights Law committee. John proposes a focus on security relationships, Status of Forces agreements, and international legal issues with a security aspect, e.g. the South China Sea, Ukraine, and domestic U.S. law with an international security focus.

Many members of the military and veteran's law section would be willing to collaborate. This could bring Washington-area security law members into the section. John worked for General Baker, who is in charge of defense services at Guantanamo. John proposes a lunch program on Guantanamo courts. John proposes webinars that would be helpful to practitioners on the nuts and bolts of international security law statutes. It would be interesting to consider a forum with returning Judge Advocates and Human Rights Law experts to balance opinions.

Judge Mimi is an Immigration Judge. She chairs the Human Rights Law committee and does work in the Human Rights Law area and would like to collaborate. Judge Mimi suggested collaborating on the law of migration. John says migration should be included in our international security strategy. Judge Mimi is the co-chair of the CLE committee for the national conference in New York. She will have a roundtable with Deborah Anker, who deals with International Women's issues in Immigration Law. Her roundtable is on March 8th. Judge Mimi is co-chair of the selection of CLEs for the national conference. She would like to present a program in this area. Mimi also serves on the diversity and inclusion committee of the task force. She suggests looking at this issue from an international security standpoint. The deadline is March 2nd.

John proposes a roundtable on International Security Law issues during the annual conference, possibly with involvement of the UN or the U.S. delegation.

National is making changes to bylaws and Mimi will follow up with Maria on adding the International Security Law committee to the bylaws. Maria is moving to another job but Anthony will continue to help the committee.

Treasurer's Report, Stephanie. A budget was included with the updated agenda for this meeting. There was a request for a sponsorship for the 2018 National Conference. The range was between \$100 and \$150. We allocated \$300 for sponsorships as part of the proposed 2018 budget. Last year we had donations because of natural disasters. Mimi proposed that we donate \$100 to Wiley Stecklow's group for the national conference. There was no opposition, all are in favor, and the motion to support this sponsorship was passed. Stephanie proposed the 2018 fiscal year budget circulated this morning be approved. The Motion was passed and the following Draft Annual Fiscal Year 2018 budget was finalized:

Draft Annual Budget FY 2018 (October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018)
Federal Bar Association International Law Section

Presented by Stephanie M. Gomez, Treasurer 2017-2018.

The Section's primary, if not sole, source of revenue is member dues. In the past, FBA national collected \$10 annually per member for ILS dues. Beginning February 2017, the section dues rate increased to \$15. During the 2017 fiscal year, the Section collected \$3,125 in gross dues, an increase from the \$2,480 collected in gross dues from the 2016 fiscal year.

According to the latest membership data (as of 10/26/17), we have 275 members, and efforts are ongoing to expand the number of paying members as much as possible, including efforts by the recently appointed Membership Chairperson, Susan Kilgore. It seems reasonable to project paid member dues for FY 2018 to be in the 250 to 300 range, at an average of 275 paid members (275 x \$15 = \$4,125). Thus the estimated gross dues revenues would be \$4,125, also an increase from the \$3,850 estimated gross dues revenues from FY 2017.

FBA national assesses \$6 per paid member for administrative charges. Rather than deduct that from each dues receipt as it comes, however, FBA national takes a single annual charge at the beginning of the fiscal year based on last year's membership data. For the Fiscal Year that just ended, that figure was \$1,632, representing 272 members at \$6 per member.

This means that projected net income for FY 2017 will be \$2,493 (i.e., \$4,125 - \$1,632). As to expenses, last year's approved budget is compared with actual expenses, and my suggested 2018:

ITEM	BUDGETED 2017	ACTUAL 2017	PROPOSED
Bank Fees	\$ 50	\$87	\$80
Postage/printing	\$400	\$17	\$100
CLE Fees	\$ 0	\$150	\$0
Misc. Expenses	\$1,710	\$3,530	\$3,000
Travel	\$600	\$1,812	\$3,000
Sponsorships	\$1,500	\$1,615	\$300
	\$4,260	\$7,211	\$6,480

The Section's ending fund balance as of September 30, 2017 was \$8,129 -- the beginning fund balance was \$11,080 and there was a decrease for the 2017 Fiscal Year fund balance in the amount of \$2,951.

Pending expenses - Mimi and Roger. Mimi - Attendance at Mid-Year Meeting \$165 + \$106.92 = \$271.92 and Roger - Attendance at Leadership Training and Mid-Year?

Midyear meeting. Mimi plans to attend. She is staying at a Doubletree and proposes a \$271.93 expense reimbursement for the Doubletree hotel.

Mimi proposed Roger participate in leadership training. Roger is now off the call so Mimi will follow up with Roger.

Newsletter. We are thankful to Heather for posting another copy of our newsletter *Global Perspectives* online. The upcoming issue is due at the end of March.

Conferences. Mimi is working with the special task force on diversity and inclusion at the FBA. We are trying to infuse our activities with this task. Mimi and Susan are expanding the mock interviews at Fordham which was for LLM students. Susan offered to provide a telephonic video conferencing mock interview opportunity. We have new members at the University of Georgia in the LLM program and they have asked to participate in a mock interview program.

Judy Wood's proposal to organize a conference at a university in Tijuana regarding mass deportations. Mexico and North America should work together. Judy believes Mexico will be besieged with deportees. The OAS American Convention on Human Rights (1969) and the Human Rights Commission give us international human rights law to work with. Judy will forward the document. The Convention refers to mass deportation. Judy thinks we should work with Mexican jurists and judges. She wants to have speakers from Mexico.

Jointly sponsored conferences. Tomorrow is the third annual New York Asylum Law conference. This is a one-day three-track program with panels. Over 350 participants are registered. The sponsoring university, Fordham, passes the fees on to the Safe Passage Project which funds juvenile proceedings. The next conference is March 15th at Fordham with Second Circuit Court of Appeals Judge Danny Chen with 29 actors presenting. Asian-American, Asian Pacific, Haitian lawyers organizations and the International Law Section are sponsoring.

International Women's Day conference March 8th at Fordham. Mimi will be speaking at the roundtable discussion.

New York national conference September 14-16. We have proposed replicating the roundtable discussion. Mimi is a co-chair of the CLE committee and has proposed we do a program on block chain law. She is working with the IP section, the Securities section and the International Law section regarding the impact of block chain law.

Legislative Conference at American University organized by Warren Burke. We had a request for sponsorship and agreed to fund this conference, have funded for a number of years.

New Business. Judy Wood proposed that the International Law Section get involved with the Indian Law section. Judy has worked with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Mimi would like to find a way to work with that group.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 a.m.