



Federal Bar Association

International Law Section

FBA International Law Section

Board Meeting

November 15, 2018

In attendance: Roger Kobert, Dave Wemhoff, Brian Murphy, Beth Persky, Stephanie Moncada-Gomez, Dave Acerra from FBA National, Lisa Ridgway, Angelika Hunnefeld, Federica Dell'Orto Hadar, Judith Wood, Joanna Seybert, Matt McGhie and Alea Al-Aghbari.

Membership Report: 270 current members. Roger stresses the importance of expanding membership.

International Day of the Endangered Lawyer (IDOEL). Roger said there was a statement's draft from FBA President on behalf of the FBA. Lisa reported that Mimi was interested in creating content to be posted on the website - like she did last year. The day for IDOEL is Jan 24th, this year the Country of focus is Turkey where there are hundreds of lawyers and judges in jail. Lisa recommends few actions: a President's message in the January 2019 issue of The Federal Lawyer to the subject of The International Day of the Endangered Lawyer; an FBA Presidential Statement on The International Day of the Endangered Lawyer itself; the presentation of a national level program (with option of CLE credit); the development and dissemination to Chapter Leaders Nationwide of a "Program-in-a-Box" (with option of CLE credit). Roger said he reached out to Maria Vathis -new FBA President- about the topic and she'll get back to us. Roger was at ABA ILS Conference in Mexico and met with their Chair and talked about doing some cross-over/ co-sponsor program with them, Roger mentioned specifically the IDOEL and ABA seemed interested. They'll likely do something in Vegas as they'll be there on Jan 24th. Judy confirms

ABA is going to do something and suggests we should join efforts. Material about the IDOEL could be published on the E-News either the week of the 24th or the week before that.

Treasurer's report (Beth): September 2018 revenues of \$180, expenses of \$790 (Beth believes it is travel reimbursement for conference), net decrease in fund balance for the month of \$610. Revenues included \$180 in Section dues. Expenses included \$22 in bank fees, \$668 in travel and \$100 in miscellaneous expenses (contribution to a program we have approved). The Section's FYTD (10/1/17-9/30/18) gross revenues are \$2,950. FYTD 2018 gross expenses are \$3,515. Section cash balance as of 9/30/18 was \$7,564. This reflects a net change of \$-565 for FY18 (10/1/17 opening balance was \$8,129).

Marketing. Stephanie and Roger met with local law schools in Miami; Bryan has done the same in Virginia and D.C. Roger believes law students are an important target and reports a lot of enthusiasm amongst those he has met with in Miami. Beth and Federica met in LA with Ron Wood of FBA's LA Chapter and discussed the idea of co-sponsoring two CLEs on International Law topics annually. It was also discussed that judges are not allowed to be political, which might be a challenge for a topic that has to do with International Human Rights Law. Ron said he'd like a program proposal that he can take to the LA chapter for review.

Newsletter. We don't have a newsletter editor. Roger hopes for some young lawyer or law student to take the role. Bryan stressed the importance of the newsletter.

Programming Committee. Dave Bryan Stephanie Roger. Number of ideas about programs that are going to take place in first 5/6 months of 2019. Roger pointed out a flaw in the system: because of changes in leadership of the section from year to year, there are loopholes in summer and thus no events for autumn. Roger is looking into changing that, possibly through some advance planning. Judy said she's working with a number of organizations - with regard to the migrant caravans - which are assisting the migrants in putting together their asylum cases. She will send to Dave, Bryan and Roger a list of what she is doing.

The meeting was **adjourned** at 12.03 EST

Next Board Meeting suggested date 12/13 11:30 EST, to be confirmed.

