

Licensed Paralegal Practitioner Committee

Meeting Minutes

October 19, 2021

Zoom Meeting

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Judge Amber Mettler, presiding

Attendees:

Monte Sleight
Jackie Morrison
Angela Allen
Tonya Wright
Matthew Page
Julie Emery

Guests:

Sue Crismon, Executive Director, The Office
of Legal Services Innovation

Staff:

Scotti Hill, Utah State Bar
Marina Kelaidis, Recording Secretary

Excused:

Judge Amber Mettler, Chair
Steve Johnson

1. Action—Welcome and approval of the draft meeting minutes: (Scotti Hill)

Scotti Hill welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for approval of the minutes.

Angela Allen moved to approve the September 21, 2021 minutes. Tonya Wright seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Ms. Hill introduced Sue Crismon, Executive Director of The Office of Legal Services Innovation. Ms. Crismon gave a brief overview of her history working with the LPP Committee and expressed her interest in working with the Committee to reduce barriers and expand opportunities for LPPs.

2. Discussion—Update from Angela Allen and Tonya Wright on current casework and projects: (Angela Allen, Tonya Wright)

Ms. Allen reported she is continuing to work with a marketing firm to get out information on the LPP program to the legal community. These advertisements have mostly been in the form of Facebook sponsored ads. Ms. Allen is also looking into using Instagram reels. Ms. Allen also reported she recently spoke with the Dean of the J. Reuben Clark Law School about the LPP program and referred Mr. Smith to Ms. Hill for further information.

Ms. Wright reported she currently has three active family law cases and she recently settled a case in mediation. As a result of the mediation process, Ms. Wright was contacted by the mediator to inquire about the LPP program and how to include an LPP in their law firm.

3. Discussion—Update on meeting with Nick Stiles: (Scotti Hill)

Ms. Hill reported the Committee has received approval to expand to 15 members and to add Ms. Wright. Ms. Hill asked the Committee to begin thinking of individuals to nominate as new members and to contact her with any nominations.

4. Discussion—Update from LPP Innovation Subcommittee: (Jackie Morrison, Scotti Hill, Tonya Wright)

Ms. Hill reported the Subcommittee focused on expanding practice areas at their most recent meeting and Ms. Wright provided a chart outlining potential practice areas. Ms. Hill presented Ms. Wright's chart to the Bar's General Counsel and the response was very positive. The Bar plans to develop some testing of these expanded practice areas in respect to the Bar's budget and explore these ideas further with input from the Innovation Subcommittee.

Ms. Hill also reported the Subcommittee is working on developing rule changes in order to expand the experience hours requirement to include legal-related academic course credits.

5. Discussion—Update from the Bar: (Scotti Hill, Matthew Page).

Mr. Page reported they have received approval for funding to continue marketing initiatives for advertising the LPP program. Mr. Page is considering developing some digital display advertisements for LPPs as well as some additional SEO strategies to drive internet searches to information about the LPP.

Ms. Hill reported the deadline for applications for the March 2022 LPP exam is November 1, 2021. There are five applicants registered for the exam at this time.

6. Discussion—Update on rural outreach: (Steve Johnson)

This matter was postponed and will be discussed at the next meeting.

7. Discussion—Update on outreach efforts: (Julie Emery, Monte Sleight)

Mr. Sleight reported there are currently 12 students enrolled in the ethics course at SLCC. Ms. Emery reported there are many students in Patty Allred's NALA prep course class that have expressed interest in the LPP program. Ms. Emery will be attending an upcoming prep course class to provide information on the LPP program and answer any questions.

8. Discussion—Old business/new business:

Ms. Hill reported the Bar's Access to Justice office and General Counsel's office are developing an LPP document review clinic as a tool to assist non-paralegal prospective LPP applicants gain experience hours by working with nonprofit legal services organizations. Ms. Hill proposed forming a subcommittee to help the Bar run this program.

9. Adjournment and next meeting:

The meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m. The next meeting will be held on November 16, 2021 from 12:00p.m.–1:30p.m. via Zoom.