Los Angeles Paralegal Association – May 2019

To kick off the Los Angeles Paralegal Association's ("LAPA") 2019 calendar, LAPA decided to try something new and fresh this year! The organization hosted a Meet the Board of Directors / Calendar Planning event in early February to entice new members to join the organization and also to hear ideas from existing members for upcoming events. The event was intimate; however, very collaborative and quite successful! Approximately 30 guests, as well as a sponsor, and several vendors were in attendance.

We started with cocktail orders and a variety of appetizers at the Far Bar in the Little Tokyo area of Los Angeles. Once the guests were provided with networking and time to chat, the new Board of Director members ("Board") were introduced. Thereafter, the Board asked for idea with respect to events that the participants would like to attend over the next year. As we received ideas, LAPA's Secretary took notes so that we can use these planning details for subsequent board meetings to solidify such events.

We discussed ideas for seminars, workshops, mixers, and even new venue options. Suggestions included providing more CLE seminars in areas such as ethics, e-filing, real estate, negotiating skills and tactics, and even a pet probate CLE. Guests also seemed to be excited to hear more about a social event with a related CLE (such as sports or entertainment law). Others were thoughtful in placing their thoughts in the suggestion box. We received comments with respect to implementation of drawings to entice attendees at events. One vendor event heard our cry for differing venue options and offered space use for meetings and seminars.

The attendees were enthusiastic, as their collaboration connected them with the Board and made them feel like a part of the organization. The takeaway from the Meet the Board of Directors / Calendar Planning event was that LAPA is extremely grateful for its members and sponsors and the association's goal is continue to strive in meeting the organization's members' requests and needs.