

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN  
FAMILY LAW COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

Date: Saturday, January 26, 2013  
Place: Double Tree, 42100 Crescent Blvd., Novi, MI 48375  
Attendance: COUNCIL: *Present*: Jim Harrington, Rebecca Shiemke, Richard Halloran, Daniel Bates, Elizabeth Bransdorfer, Christopher Harrington, David Hoort, Sahera Housey, Peter M. Kulas, Mathew Kobliska, Antoinette Raheem, Steven Reinheimer, Kristen Robinson, Erika Salerno, Ross Stancati, Gail Towne, Robert Treat, Stacy Van Dyken, Randall Velzen; *Absent*: Alison Sleight, Carol Breitmeyer  
GUESTS: Traci Rink, Tina Yost, Ron Foon, Bill Kandler, Zenell Brown, Chris Piatkowski, Lea Ann Sterling, Rachel Taylor, Barb Kelly, Kent Weichmann, Katie Wendt, Anne Argiroff, Ellen Paynter, Neil Colman, Elizabeth Sadowski, Matthew Smith, Anne Marie Smith, Katherine Root, Jeffrey Salassa, Christopher Nesi, Lisa Danphousse, Anthy Papista, Pat Ouellette

**AGENDA**

**I. Administrative Matters**

- A. **Call to Order:** 9:31 AM
- B. **Chairperson's Report:** began with introductions by everyone present.
  - (i) Lea Ann Sterling, from Traverse City, discussed her program for unmarried fathers and the matter was referred to the Alternative family Committee for further review and recommendations.
  - (ii) The Chairperson has appointed Herb Riale to represent the Section on SCAO's Adoption Forms Committee.
  - (iii) There was discussion on supporting the Referee Association of Michigan's Annual Conference. The question was raised as to how many referee's are members of the Section. The motion to support them with a donation of \$2000 was passed 17Y 1A 0N.
- C. **Recording Secretary's Report:** Minutes of previous meeting were approved after a waiving of their reading.
- D. **Treasurer's Report:** No Report
- E. An election was held to fill the vacancy created by Donna Mobilia's resignation. Peter M. Kulas was elected to fill the term which expires September, 2013.

**II. Key Committees**

- A. **Amicus:**  
The Family Law Section opposes the "one Parent doctrine" 19Y 0N
- B. **Court Rules:**
  - (i) The Committee considered Admin 2012-19 and recommends we not express any opinion on this 19Y 0N
  - (ii) The Committee discussed the need for more anecdotal information on post-judgment discovery and how we need more state-wide input on rules and other information.
  - (iii) There was discussion of ADM 2010-32 and the final version of MCR 3.210. The Council voted 14Y 5N to support ADM 2010-32.
- C. **Legislation:**
  - (i) No new legislation introduced yet. However, several bills were enacted at the end of the term, including:
    - SB 1000: Prohibits parenting time in non-Hague countries
    - SB 1001: Employers can charge employees for withholding
  - (ii) A married person may adopt an adult without spouse's consent
  - (iii) Statute of repose passed

(iv) The committee is considering sponsors for affirmative bills

### III. **Standing Committee Reports**

#### A. **Alternative Dispute Resolution:**

Submitted a written report.

#### B. **Alternative Family:**

No report

#### C. **Annual Meeting:**

- *Lansing, September 18-20, 2013* Annual Dinner will be Sept 18, 2013 at the Country Club of Lansing.

#### D. **CLE/ICLE:**

February 20, 2013 meeting to plan the Family Law Institute. E-mail ideas to Liz Bransdorfer.

#### E. **Domestic Violence:**

The committee is looking into the varied practices of conciliation statewide and in particular how the process impacts families involved in domestic violence. The committee has solicited attorney experiences from the list and any others can be emailed to Rebecca S.

#### F. **Family Court Forum:** The Forum is June 7, 2013.

#### G. **Family Law Journal:**

Non substantive editing has been done by Toni and Bruce for the past two years. Anthea Papista and Lisa Damphouse will replace them. Sahera Housey will also help. This change was approved by Council unanimously. Electronic version – the transition will happen and the committee continues to investigate options.

#### H. **Family Support:**

No report.

#### I. **Journal Advertising:**

Members are encouraged to contact Kristen with names of Potential advertisers.

#### J. **Membership/Mentor Roundtables:**

No report.

#### K. **Midwinter/Midsummer Seminars:**

(Winter) – *coming up!*

(Summer) Mission Point, July 18-21, 2013

#### L. **Political Action Committee:**

Twelve contributions have been received since last meeting. Committee will investigate ways to increase ways to increase contributions. Could we use PAC funds to advertise in journal or send mailing to members? Electronic donations through PayPal?

#### M. **QDRO/Taxation:** The EDRO bill has a sponsor.

#### N. **Technology:**

No report.

### IV. **Ad Hoc Committees**

#### A. **Parenting Coordination:** No Report

#### B. **Procedures Committee:** No Report

### V. **Announcements/New Business;**

(i) Children's Law Section is working on improvements to payments to court appointed attorneys in Child Protection cases. The section's next meeting is February 21, 2013 at 5:30 PM.

(ii) Zenell Brown, Wayne County FOC shared brochures for the new Wayne County self help site.

Meeting adjourned at 11:24 AM.

**Next Meeting: March 2, 2013, Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, Grand Rapids, MI breakfast starting at 9:00 am and the meeting starting promptly at 9:30 am and ending at 11:30 am.**