

**MINUTES - FAMILY LAW COUNCIL, FAMILY LAW SECTION
ANNUAL MEETING**

Date: September 19, 2013

Place: Lansing Center, Lansing

I. Administrative Matters

- A. Call to Order - Outgoing Chair Traci Rink called the annual meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
- B. Chair's Final Report and Welcome – Traci welcomed the 50 section members who were present.
- C. Annual Elections - Nine candidates stood for nine council positions; seven three-year terms, one two-year term, and one one-year term.

II. Key Committee Reports/Review of 2012-13 and Current Issues

- A. Amicus – Anne Argiroff and Rebecca Shiemke reviewed the amicus briefs filed on council's behalf during the last term, and noted upcoming cases.
- B. Court Rules – Matthew Kobliska gave a brief overview of court rule activity in the past term, and noted that council would be asked for an electronic vote on a proposed post judgment appearance rule.
- C. Legislation – Kent Weichmann reviewed legislative activity during the past term, including several council initiatives.

III. Election Results

Terms ending 9/2016:

Elizabeth Bransdorfer
J. Matthew Catchick, Jr.
Sahera Housey
Peter Kulas
Anthea Papista
Gail Towne
Kent Weichmann

Term ending 9/2015:

Tina (Yost) Johnson

Term ending 9/2014:

Colleen Markou

Liz Sadowski sadowski@mindspring.com reminded council members to provide her with their email addresses so that she can update the Council email group.

IV. Adjournment of Annual Meeting

New Chair Jim Harrington thanked Traci Rink for her outstanding service to council. Annual meeting adjourned and council meeting called to order.

**MINUTES - FAMILY LAW COUNCIL, FAMILY LAW SECTION
COUNCIL MEETING**

Date: September 19, 2013

Place: Lansing Center, Lansing

I. Call to Order

A. Incoming Chair Jim Harrington III called Council to order.

All 21 council members were present: James J. Harrington III, Rebecca Shiemke, Carol Breitmeyer, Dick Halloran, Kent Weichmann, Daniel Bates, Elizabeth Bransdorfer, J. Matthew Catchik, Jr., Christopher J. Harrington, Sahera Housey, Tina (Yost) Johnson, Mathew Kobliska, Peter Kulas, Colleen Markou, Anthea Papista, Steven Reinheimer, Kristen Robinson, Allison Sleight, Ross Stancati, Gail Towne, Robert Treat, Randall Velzen

Guests: Elizabeth Sadowski, Chris Piatkowski, Rachael Taylor, Stephanie Farkas, Katie Cushman, Amy Yu, Neil Colman, Barbara Kelly, Ron Foon

II. Election of Officers

A. Recording Secretary

Kent Weichmann was the sole candidate, and was elected unanimously.

B. Corresponding Secretary

Former Recording Secretary Dick Halloran was the sole candidate, and was elected unanimously.

C. Treasurer

Former Corresponding Secretary Carol Breitmeyer was the sole candidate, and was elected unanimously.

D. Chairperson-Elect

Former Treasurer Rebecca Shiemke was the sole candidate, and was elected unanimously.

E. Chairperson

In accordance with bylaw 4.3, Chairperson-Elect James J. Harrington III ascended to Chairperson of the Family Law Section.

III. Committee Report

A. Legislative Committee

Kent Weichmann asked Council to take a position on HBs 4927, 4928, and 4991 because the bills were on a fast track in the legislature. The bills would require the state to license and fund child placement agencies that discriminated based on their religious or moral convictions. Council

had opposed similar bills in previous terms. Council voted to oppose all three bills by a 21-0 vote.

IV. Future Council Meetings

The Chair provided the schedule for this term's council meetings. All council meetings will begin at 9:30 a.m., with a breakfast buffet starting at 9:00 a.m..

October 5, 2013	Amway Hotel, Grand Rapids
November 2, 2013	Double Tree, Novi
December 7, 2013	Weber's Inn, Ann Arbor
January 25, 2014	University Club, Lansing
March 8, 2014	Double Tree, Novi
April 5, 2014	University Club, Lansing
May 3, 2014	Weber's Inn, Ann Arbor
June 7, 2014	Amway Hotel, Grand Rapids

All Family Law Section members are welcome at Council meetings, but an advance email to jjh@jjharringtonlaw.com will ensure that we have plenty of food and space for attendees. If a presenter or member wishes audio video equipment email jjh@jjharringtonlaw.com seven days in advance of the meeting.

V. Committee Sign-ups

The chair passed around sign-up sheets for committee assignments. If you missed an opportunity to sign up for a committee, please email your wish for committee assignment to jjh@jjharringtonlaw.com.

VI. Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,

Kent Weichmann, Recording Secretary
September 25, 2013