

Minutes Family Law Council Meeting

Date: September 20, 2012

Location: Amway Grand Plaza, Grand Rapids, MI

Attendance: *Council Members:* Ross Stancati, Chris Harrington, Steven Reinheimer, Gail Towne, Jim Harrington, Donna Mobilia, Allison Sleight, Carol Breitmeyer, Dick Halloran, Daniel Bates, Rebecca Shiemke, Bob Treat, Randy Velzen, Liz Bransdorfer, Matt Kobliska, Toni Raheem, Erika Salerno, Connie Thacker, Kristen Robinson, David Hoort

Guests: Amy Yu, Anne Argiroff, Kent Weichman, J. Andrew Merriman, Elizabeth Sadowski

Administrative Matters:

- A) Call to order 10:10 AM
- B) Elections were held. New Officers were elected: Chair Elect—Jim Harrington; Treasurer—Rebecca Schiemke; Corresponding Secretary—Carol Breitmeyer; Recording Secretary—Dick Halloran. All elections were unanimous.
- C) Chairperson's report:
 - 1. Committees and sub-committee sign up sheets were circulated.
 - 2. Everyone should review the State Bar Diversity pledge for our next meeting. It can be found at www.michbar.org/diversity/pledge.cfm
 - 3. Discussion was held about a candidates forum for Michigan Supreme Court.
 - 4. Discussion was started about requesting a dedicated Family Law issue of the State Bar Journal.
 - 5. Also a special issue of the Family Law Journal
- D) Recording Secretary's report: No report.
- E) Treasurer's report: No report. Get expenses in before end of month!

Key Committees:

- A) Amicus: No report
- B) Court Rules: No report
- C) Legislative:
 - 1. HB 5766 Marriage Equality Act Support 20 Yes 0 No
 - 2. HB 5799 Return of Name Act Support 20 Yes 0 No
 - 3. HB 5812 Amend child custody act Oppose 20 Yes 0 No
 - 4. SB 989 create a fallback position Support 20 Yes 0 No

Standing Committees:

- A) Alternative Dispute Resolution: No report
- B) Alternative Family: No report

- C) Annual Meeting: Former Hyatt Regency Dearborn, September 18-20, 2013
- D) CLE/ICLE: No report. The members approved providing scholarship money Legal Aid attendees at the Family Law Institute in November. Support 20 Yes 0 No
- E) Domestic Violence: No report
- F) Family Court Forum; Scheduled June 7, 2013 members voted to spend \$2,000 to help fund the forum. Support 20 Yes 0 No
- G) Family Law Journal: No report. Discussion occurred about online issuance of the Journal. Other sections will be consulted about their journals and an eblast survey conducted of Family Section members.
- H) Family Support: No report
- I) Journal Advertising: Kudos from the Chair. Always looking for more ads.
- J) Membership/Mentor Roundtables: Chris Harrington went to University of Detroit Mercy Law Schools orientation and recruited 25 new student members of the section. Dick Halloran covered the costs.
- K) Midwinter/Midsummer Seminars: Winter is moving along well. Plans for next summer possibly Charlevoix or Petoskey. They are looking for speakers and checking into finances.
- L) Political Action Committee: All Council members should make a donation to PAC.
- M) QDRO/Taxation: Report Attached
- N) No Committee
- O) Technology: No report

Ad Hoc Committees:

- A) Parenting Coordination: The committee will start looking for a sponsor for the bill after the elections.

Announcements/New Business

None

Motion to adjourn 11:24AM.

Next meeting: October 6, 2012 at Weber's Inn, 3050 Jackson Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48103 with breakfast starts at 9:00am and meeting starting promptly at 9:30am and ending by 11:30 am.