I. The meeting was called to order at approximately 11:30 a.m. by the chair, Lauren M. Underwood

II. A. Council Members Excused:
Robin D. Ferriby   Nancy L. Little
Sebastian V. Grassi, Jr.   James B. Steward
Hon. Kathryn A. George   Robert P. Tiplady

B. Council Officers and Members Present:
Lauren M. Underwood   George W. Gregory
Harold Schuitmaker   Douglas G. Chalgian
W. Josh Ard   Marilyn A. Lankfer
Daniel E. Cogan   Douglas A. Mielock
John R. Dresser   Amy N. Morrissey
Mark K. Harder   Rebecca A. Schnelz
Ellen Sugrue Hyman   Richard J. Siriani
Shaheen I. Imani   Thomas F. Sweeney
Marlaine C. Teahan   Joan C. Von Handorf

C. Others Present:
Susan M. Allen   Daniel P. Marsh
Cynthia S. Andrews   Hon. David M. Murkowski
Ronald A. Berridge   Jeanne Murphy
Samuel D. Carpenter   Lorraine F. New
Kevin M. Cotter   Patricia M. Quelette
Henry M. Grix   Valerie L. Rice
Hon. Phillip E. Harter   Tonya Schuitmaker
Stephen W. Jones   Carol A. Sewell
Mark E. Kellogg   James P. Spica
Kenneth E. Konop   Teresa S. Sullivan
J. David Kerr   Derek A. Walters
III. **Introduction of Guests:** All attendees, including guests, introduced themselves.

Mr. Jim Spica a guest attorney representing Greenleaf Trust Company led a discussion regarding statutory changes to the rule against perpetuities as currently proposed before the legislature. Mr. Spica explained that the proposal is for an outright repeal of the rule as it relates to personal property held in trust with certain exceptions which exceptions are designed to avoid the so-called “Delaware Tax Trap” and with a 360 year wait and see.

Mr. Spica indicated that he would continue discussion of the rule against perpetuities during the lunch.

IV. **Secretary’s Report:** The minutes of the December 8, 2007 meeting were approved with some modifications recognizing that Lorraine F. New is the Liaison to the Tax Section and also recognizing that the Treasurer’s report was presented at the last Council meeting.

V. **Treasurer’s Report:** Treasurer George W. Gregory provided the Treasurer’s report.

**Chairperson’s Report:**

VII. **Report of the Committee on Special Projects:** No Report.

VIII. **Standing Committee Reports**

A. **Internal Governance**

1. **Budget – George W. Gregory, chair.** No report.

2. **Bylaws - Marilyn K. Lankfer, chair:** No report.

3. **Michael Irish Award - Brian V. Howe, chair:** No report.

4. **Long-Range Planning - Lauren M. Underwood, chair:** No report.

5. **Nominations - Henry M. Grix, chair:** No report.

6. **Relations with the State Bar - John R. Dresser, chair:** No report.

7. **Annual Meeting - Lauren M. Underwood, chair:** No report.
B. Education & Advocacy Services for Section Members

1. **Amicus Curiae** - Mark K. Harder, chair: No report.

2. **Continuing Education & Annual Probate Institute** - Nancy L. Little, chair:

3. **Section Journal** - Nancy L. Little, chair: No report.


5. **Pamphlets** - Ellen Sugrue Hyman, chair: No report.


7. **Committee on Special Projects** – Amy N. Morrissey/Richard J. Siriani, co-chairs: No report.

C. Legislation and Lobbying

1. **Legislation** - Harold Schuitmaker and John R. Dresser, co-chairs:

   The issue of the Uniform Power of Attorney Act Committee was addressed at the Council meeting with an agreement that Ms. Underwood would schedule a telephone conference with Ms. Beckler, the lobbyist, to discuss the status of this legislation.

   Amy N. Morrissey led a discussion of bills to rescind the dower rights in Michigan, House Bills 5587 and 5588. Attorney Patricia M. Quelette indicated that the family law section does not support the repeal and that she would work to schedule a telephone conference between members of the probate section and the family law section to see if some agreement could be reached on this matter.

2. **Michigan Trust Code** - Mark K. Harder, chair.


D. Ethics, Professionalism and Standards

1. **Ethics** - Marilyn A. Lankfer, chair: No report.


E. **Administration of Justice**

1. **Contested and Uncontested Probate Proceedings** – Amy N. Morrissey, chair. No report.

2. **Uniformity of Practice** - Sebastian V. Grassi, Jr. and Joan Von Handorf, co-chairs: Co-chair Joan Von Handorf reported on the Uniformity of Practice Committee and some new forms coming as a result of new Court rules.

F. **Practice Issues, Related Areas & Liaisons**


6. **Court Rules and Forms** - Harold Schuitmaker and Joan C. Von Handorf, co-chairs:

7. **Elder Law/Elder Law Section Liaison** – W. Josh Ard: for another meeting

8. **Family Law/Family Law Section Liaison** - Patricia M. Ouellette: No report.

10. **Tax Section Liaison** – *Lorraine F. New*:


IX. **Other Business:**

X. **Hot Topics:**

XI. **Adjournment** - the meeting was adjourned by Chair Lauren M. Underwood at 12:00 p.m.

    Respectfully submitted,

    Douglas G. Chalgian