

**Elder Law and Disability Rights Section [ELDRS]of the State Bar of Michigan**  
**Section Meeting –April 3, 2021**  
**Webinar / Conference Call Only**

Attendance by Phone: Christine Caswell\*, Susan Chalgian\*, Howard Collens\*, Shannon DeWall\*, Raymond Harris\*, Angela Hentkowski\*, Antonia Harbin-Lamb\*, Catherine Jacobs\*, Robert Mannor\*, Maria Messina Wiersma\*, Erin Mortenson\*, Amanda Murray\*, Theresa Orlaske-Rich\*, Kelly Quardokus\*, Tracey Rowens\*, Sandford Mall\*, Nick Ryan\*, Jacquelyn Rygiel-Sprague\*, Nadia Vann\*, Terri Winegarden\*, Todd Tennis, David Sprague, David Lucas, Harley Manela, Sara Morey, David Kerr, Kathryn Larlee, Patricia Dudek, Paul Sturgul, Beth Swagman, and Karen Willard.

[\*ELDRS Council Member]

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Chair Christine Caswell called the meeting at approximately 10:03 AM.

**[A] ROUTINE BUSINESS**

1. Attendance / Roll Call
2. Agenda- Theresa Orlaske-Rich moved, and Erin Mortenson seconded, a Motion to adopt the Agenda. Motion passed.
3. Minutes – Add David Sprague to the March meeting minutes. Angela Hentkowski moved to approve the minutes with adding David Sprague who attended by phone, and Erin Mortenson seconded, a Motion to adopt the minutes. Motion passed.
4. Treasurer’s Report- Maria Messina Wiersma discussed the treasurer’s report and that she is looking, with the Bar, into the discrepancy between the increase in members but reduction in income from due. Maria reported that the Hearts & Flowers has received \$280 to date. We are still requesting \$35 from each council member to be sent to Chalgian & Tripp’s Southfield office.

**[C] COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. **Spring Conference** – Harley Manela led discussion on the Spring Conference. The conference was a success with over 180 people attending at the peak.
2. **Fall Conference** – Susan Chalgian had no formal report. This year’s conference is October 4-6, 2021 at Bay City if able to be in-person. Next year’s conference will be October 12-14, 2022 at Crystal Mountain.
3. **Disability Rights Committee** – Nadia Vann discussed ensuring that accommodations be made for persons with disabilities at ELDRS events. Lengthy discussion was held regarding wording and issues. Proposed language for future events, virtual, and live: **Accommodations can be made for persons with disabilities. Large print materials, auxiliary aids or the services of interpreters, signers, or readers are available upon request. To make a request, please send it at least seven days prior to the event to:**

There was some discussion on whether or not seven days is enough time. The committee will discuss further.

**4. Legislative Committee –**

- a. Todd Tennis gave the Capitol Services Legislative Report.
- b. Todd Tennis updated on remote witnessing and notarization, and SB 033. Discussed the new package on elder abuse, which is a re-introduction of bills we worked on last year.
- c. Legislative Week – Catherine Jacobs reported about Legislative week. It will be held May 10-14 – To participate, email your name and address to Courtney VanCamp at [courtneyvancamp@capitol-services.org](mailto:courtneyvancamp@capitol-services.org) to set up a virtual meeting with your legislators. All ELDRS members are strongly encouraged to “attend.” Capitol Services will host training on Monday, May 10, and there will be a wrap-up session on the afternoon of May 14.
- d. Governor’s Task Force on Elder Abuse Update – please contact Nicole Shannon or Kelly Quardokus if have comments on the Surrogate Consent Proposed Statute.

**5. Litigation** – Angela Hentkowski had no formal report. The committee will be meeting on April 5, 2021 to discuss the Supreme Court’s invitation for ELDRS to prepare an amicus for *Estate of Virginia Kermath v Independence Village of Oxford*.

**6. Membership and Education** – Amanda Murray reported the next webinar will be in mid-May. Webinars are scheduled for every other month to allow for emergency webinars.

**7. Administrative** – Erin Mortenson reported that the committee has finalized the letter to CMS. Erin Mortenson made a motion, and Kelly Quardokus seconded, to approve the final form of the letter to CMS, with its attachments, without sending a copy to DHHS. Roll Call - motion passes with 20 voting in favor, there were no votes opposed or abstaining. Motion passes.

**8. Bylaws** – Robert Mannor reported on what needs to be updated in Bylaws. Anyone interested in assisting with the Bylaw changes contact Howard Collens or Robert Mannor.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 11:58 AM.