

Minutes of the Elder Law and Disability Rights Section Meeting on 12/1/2007

Attendance

Present at the meeting were: Dolores Coulter, Caroline Dellenbusch, Rosemary Buhl, Konrad Hitner, Brad Vauter, Judge Nelson, Doug Chalgian, Amy Tripp and Valerie Rice.

Attending by telephone conference were: Matt Joswick, Paul Sturgl, Rachel Holmes, Roxanne Chang, Harley Manela, Art Malisow, Susan W. Weideman, John Payne and Jim Schuster.

Also attending was Ellen Hoekstra from Capitol Services.

Treasury report- A copy was e-mailed to all member's for the months ending October 31st and September 30th. The Crystal Mountain invoice hasn't come in as of yet which is estimated to be for \$13,000. At this time we have \$91,000 on hand.

Legislative update from Ellen Hoekstra of Capital Services- Ellen presented a detailed legislative update which was posted to the section list-serv.

Old business- The 2008 spring conference is scheduled for March 14th, 2008. There was a discussion about adding a second day for an additional fee. Jim Schuster broached the idea of having Mark Miranda from Smart Marketing present on that second day, discussing how to market as an attorney, website development, practice development, etc. We need to at least have 25 people present at the seminar. Mark does not charge a fee to put on the seminar. Mark's web site is **smartmarketingnow.com** and Jim encouraged everyone to take a look at it.

Fee for the seminar- The fee discussed for members, was \$100.00, and for non-members the fee will be \$120.00.

Name of the conference- It was motioned that this years conference be dedicated to George A. Cooney. John Payne brought a motion for this and it was second by Rachel Holmes, and was approved by vote..

The fall conference is going to be September 24th to September 26th 2008. The room fee is on an a la carte basis. The package rate is only available for those who stay a minimum of two days. We are going to have to put a \$3,000 deposit down to reserve these dates. A motion was brought to authorizing the payment of this deposit and it was passed.

Ellen recommended that we invite some local legislatures from the Up North area to attend and/or speak at the conference. Specifically mentioned were Gary McDowelle and Jason Allen. They are from the districts around that area.

The fee for the fall conference is going to be \$200 for members and \$ 220 for non-members. The rooms are going to be \$92.00 a night for a regular room, and \$120.00 a night for a suite.

Meeting with Paul Reinhardt- We have not received a response as of yet. We are still trying to set up a meeting.

DRA litigation committee- No real news.

House bill concerning conservatorships and guardianships- Roxanne Chang discussed house bills 5186, 5187 and 5188 regarding guardianships and conservatorships. As a brief summary the house bill 5186, would require Guardian Ad Litem to report on property and cash assets in their reports. The court could then require a conservatorship if the assets exceed the small estate limit.

With the respect to house bill 5187, that requires the conservator to receive court approval before obtain a mortgage or a lean on real property, and house bill 5188 requires bond for estates over the small estate limit. However there are some exceptions for the spouse, if there is a conservator or if there is a Power of Attorney. The council voted unanimously, 14-0, to support house bills 5187 and 5188.

New business- The Capitol Service contract was discussed, the contract expires on December 31st 2007. The current contract calls for \$1,000 for consulting and \$1,515 for lobbying. The proposal was to continue the consulting at \$1,030 per month or when only one issue is involved the monthly fee of \$1,250 per month will be applicable. It was decided to continue with option one, which is the \$1,030 monthly fee for consulting. Amy motioned that this be approved and it was seconded by Judge Nelson and was then approved by vote.

Meeting was then adjourned.