

**ELDER LAW AND DISABILITY RIGHTS SECTION  
COUNCIL MEETING  
NOVEMBER 4, 2006  
State Bar of Michigan**

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Priscilla Cheever, Dolores Coulter, Konrad Hittner, Judge Nelson, Amy Tripp, Brad Vauter

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT BY TELEPHONE:** Roxanne Chang, Caroline Dellenbusch, Bradley Geller, Kathleen Graham, Harley Manela, Arthur Malisow, John Payne, Don Rosenberg

**SECTION MEMBERS PRESENT:** Rosemary Buhl, Mark Cronmiller (by telephone)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Ellen Hoekstra

The meeting was called to order by Chair Elect, Dolores Coulter.

**1. Introductions**

The members introduced themselves.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the October 7, 2006 meeting were approved.

**3. Treasurer's Report**

Don nor any of the officers received an updated report from the State Bar. Therefore, there was no change to be reported.

**4. Legislative Update**

See Capitol Services Report that was posted and distributed at the meeting. Ellen Hoekstra reported and gave several comments regarding the upcoming election. She encouraged Council and Section Members to introduce themselves to any new candidates and schedule meetings with freshmen candidates after the election.

## **5. Old Business**

### **A. House Bill 5389 (Single Point of Entry)**

The committee which included Sandy, Patti, Delores and Konrad had a conference call on October 13, 2006. Also joining in on the conference call was Sara Slocum. The committee was unable to provide a single recommendation to the council. None of the committee members were wholly supportive of the bill and all of the committee members had several concerns. The committee came up with three options: first was to do nothing, second was to unequivocally support the bill with the understanding that if the bill was tied to either estate preservation or estate recovery the council would oppose, number three was to provide qualified support. The committee was concerned that the bill has many unanswered questions and raises procedural and substantive due process concerns. SPE resembles the public, community mental health model which tends to provide little support to the consumer. Ellen Hoekstra indicated that Senator Hammerstrom wants to see a package of changes in long term care to move simultaneously. Motion was made by Brad Geller for the council to do nothing with regard to SPE (House Bill 5389). Motion was seconded by Don Rosenberg. Motion was carried with three nays.

### **B. House Bill 6478 (Long Term Care Partnership)**

Don Rosenberg reported that he and Sandy have spoken with regard to this issue. Ellen Hoekstra indicated that she was still concerned about the lack of consumer protections with the current bill. The committee intended to meet and make recommendations.

### **C. Fall Conference**

All expenses have not been reported yet but it will appear that the fall conference at Mackinaw will result in a loss of approximately \$5,000-6,000.

### **D. Website Committee**

No report.

### **E. Advanced Directive/License Decal**

Don reported that he had spoken to Todd and followed up and made contacts with the Secretary of State's office. The contacts Don had made were interested but did not want to discuss or pursue anything until after the first of the year. Don indicated that Blue Cross Blue Shield was mildly warm to the idea.

**F. Health Law Section Collaboration**

Rosemary Buhl reported on the status of the collaboration with the Health Care Law Section on the Domestic Violence Brochure. Ms. Buhl stated that she has obtained copies of the original brochure the Health Care Law Section is using as a starting point and has distributed a copy of this to the other committee members, Josh Ard, Brad Geller and Caroline Dellenbusch in addition to Chair Sandy Mall. Ms Buhl stated that it is still unclear as to what the Section's participation will entail and she is in communication with Rob Iwrey from that section to clarify the issue.

**G. DPOA Brochures**

Brad Geller reported that a final review was completed by a doctorate student at MSU. One of the difficult decisions was which dialect to choose the brochure to be published in. The Hispanic Bar wouldn't agree on which language. Katie Graham was also going to explore producing the brochure in an Arabic version.

**5. Spring Conference 2007**

Harley reported that there is a tentative hold date for March 30, 2007. The location will be at the Inn of St. Johns in Plymouth. The topics are tentative and have not been finalized. Motion was made by John Payne to set the spring conference for March 30, 2007 and allow Harley to finalize all details. Motion was seconded by Brad Vauter. Motion carried unanimously.

**6. Fall, 2007 Conference**

Brad Geller reported that Crystal Mountain appeared to be the most popular choice. Tentative dates for the conference will be October 11-13, 2007. The motion was made by John Payne and seconded by Judge Nelson that the fall conference be held at Crystal Mountain. Motion carried unanimously.

**7. New Business**

**A. Lobbyist Contract Proposals**

1. There was group discussion as to whether to change and authorize additional lobbying services for the months of November and December. After much discussion it was decided that if issues were to arise during the lame duck session the council would have a vote to increase lobbying services if necessary.
2. Next Year's Lobbyist Contract – Written proposals are to be submitted during the month of November and reviewed at the December meeting.

The next meeting will be December 2, 2006 at Sandy Mall's office. There being no other business the meeting was adjourned at 11:51 a.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by:

Amy R. Tripp  
Secretary