

**Elder Law and Disability Rights Section [ELDRS] of the State Bar of Michigan**  
**Section Meeting – November 7, 2020**  
**Webinar / Conference Call Only**

Attendance by Phone: Christine Caswell\*, Susan Chalgian\*, Howard Collens\*, Shannon DeWall\*, Raymond Harris\*, Antonia Harbin-Lamb\*, Angela Hentkowski\*, Catherine Jacobs\*, Sanford Mall\*, Robert Mannor\*, Maria Messina Wiersma\*, Erin Mortenson\*, Amanda Murray\*, Theresa Orlaske-Rich\*, Kelly Quardokus\*, Tracey Rowens\*, Nick Ryan\*, Jacquelyn Rygiel-Sprague\*, Nadia Vann\*, Terri Winegarden\*, Todd Tennis, Jean Doss, Paul Sturgul, Michael Bartnik, Cery Kennedy, Don Rosenberg, Norman Richards, Harley Manela, Kimberly Parks, James Steward, Sara Whalen, and Beth Swagman

[\*ELDRS Council Member]

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Chair Christine Caswell called the meeting at approximately 10:05 AM.

**[A] ROUTINE BUSINESS**

1. Attendance / Roll Call
2. Agenda- Robert Mannor moved, and Angela Hentkowski seconded, a Motion to adopt the Agenda. Motion passed.
3. Minutes- Theresa Orlaske-Rich moved, and Kelly Quardokus seconded, a Motion to adopt the minutes. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report- No report, State Bar of Michigan wrapping up end of year.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

1. **Capitol Services Contract** – Angela Hentkowski moved, and Robert Mannor seconded, a motion to approve the Capitol Services Contract. Motion passed.
2. **Newsletter Stipend for Christine Caswell** – Robert Mannor moved, and Terri Winegarden seconded, a motion to approve \$3,000 a year to Christine Caswell for newsletter stipend (paid \$750 per newsletter, and paid quarterly). Motion passed unanimously, with Christine Caswell abstaining.
3. **Reimbursement for Fall Conference Zoom** - Kelly Quardokus moved, and Susan Chalgian seconded, to reimburse Angela Hentkowski \$131.41 for Zoom fees in connection with the Fall Conference. Motion passed unanimously, with Angela Hentkowski abstaining.

**[B] COMMITTEE REPORTS**

1. **Spring Conference** – Harley Manela led discussion on the Spring Conference. The conference will be held on March 19, 2021 by zoom, and will likely be 4 sessions from approximately 11:00 am – 3:00 pm. Lengthy discussion of whether to charge a fee. Angela Hentkowski moved, and Jacquelyn Rygiel-Sprague seconded, a motion to approve up to \$400 for Harley Manela to spend for expenses relating to the Spring Conference, and \$1,000 stipend to Mall, Malisow & Cooney P.C. Sanford Mall

- abstained; motion passed unanimously.
2. **Disability Rights Committee** – Nadia Vann led the discussion on accessibility issues in the Detroit government buildings and a brief Hamster Wheel case update.
  3. **Legislative Committee** -
    - a. Todd Tennis gave the Capitol Services Legislative Report.
    - b. Senate Bill 798 regarding visitation. Todd Tennis and Kelly Quardokus led the discussion. The Legislative Committee recommended that the Section support SB 798. Kelly Quardokus moved, and Terri Winegarden seconded a motion to “Support” SB 798. Roll Call – motion passes with 20 voting in favor, there were no votes opposed or abstaining. Motion passes.
    - c. HB 5795 – Electronic Wills – Already passed the house, ELDRS already has opposed. Todd Tennis urges to contact their Michigan senator and ask that they oppose HB 5795.
    - d. SB 77 – Cameras in the nursing home – Todd Tennis led discussion. Legislative Committee recommends that Council to oppose SB 77 as passed as Substitute 3. After a lengthy discussion, Kelly Quardokus moved, and Angela Hentkowski seconded a motion to “Oppose” SB 77 as passed as Substitute 3. Roll Call – motion passes with 20 voting in favor, there were no votes opposed or abstaining. Motion passes.
    - e. Remote Witnessing/Notarization – HB 6294 and HB 6297 was signed by the Governor. Todd Tennis discussed brief history of issue. Lengthy discussion about various issues and concerns.
  4. **Litigation** – Angela Hentkowski discussed Robert Mannor’s request for an amicus brief. The Litigation Committee recommended that an amicus brief not be prepared at the Circuit Court level, and instead recommended that up to \$2,000 be paid to attorney to assist Robert Mannor in preparing his brief. After a discussion, Angela Hentkowski moved, and Terri Winegarden seconded, a motion to approve up to \$2,000 to assist Robert Mannor in preparing his brief, subject to approval by Michigan NAELA, from the Litigation Fund. The attorney who is assisting Robert Mannor shall submit their bill to Michigan NAELA to get paid. Motion passed unanimously, with Robert Mannor abstaining.
  5. **Newsletter** – Christine Caswell reported that she will be contacting people individually to write articles.
  6. **Membership and Education** – Amanda Murry discussed webinar scheduled for November 17 at noon on “How to Select a Fiduciary”, and ELDRS exchange.
  7. **Administrative** – Erin Mortenson reported on the administrative issues and seeking guidance on how to proceed. She would like to send an email to Kate Massey to see what the procedure is.
  8. **Bylaws** – Howard Collens will try to get the Bylaws updated this year.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 12:01 PM.