

**ELDER LAW & DISABILITY RIGHTS SECTION
OF THE
STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN**

**ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
SECTION**

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 4, 2013

TAKEN BY:
PATRICK J. BOND, SECRETARY
ELDER LAW & DISABILITY RIGHTS SECTION
STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN

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Matter One - Introduction

Matter 1.01 Location

Crystal Mountain Resort & Spa, 12500 Crystal Mountain Drive, Thompsonville, Michigan.

Present:
(Council Members Only)

By Telephone:
(Not Applicable)

Patrick J. Bond (Secretary)
Rosemary Buhl (Chair-elect)
Christine Caswell
Caroline M. Dellenbusch
C. Jill Goodell
Robert J. Longstreet
William D. Lucius
Michael A. Mestelle
John B. Payne (Treasurer)
Kelly J. McNerney Quardokus
Sara Ann Schimke
Christopher William Smith
James B. Steward
Beth A. Swagman
Bradley A. Vauter (Chair)
Erma S. Yarbrough-Thomas

Note: Numerous Section Members not on the Council were also present

Matter 1.02 Approval of Minutes

September Minutes were approved.

Matter 1.03 Legislative Update – Capitol Services

See report of October 2013 by Ellen Hoekstra and Todd Tennis, our lobbyists from Capitol Services, Inc. Some of the more pertinent issues are discussed below:

(a) Implementation of Healthy Michigan Plan

The Medicaid expansion bill, PA 107 of 2013 (formerly HB 4714), extends Medicaid coverage to an additional 477,000 Michiganders, earning in income up to 133% (\$15,282 per year) of the federal poverty level per year. The coverage, however, will not take effect until around April 1, 2013.

(b) Pooled Trust Bill

HB 4013 is a bill that clarifies that pooled trusts can be funded by those disabled individuals who are sixty-five years or older. Even though federal law permits the use of the pooled trust for any disabled individual, regardless of age, DCH is strongly against HB 4013.

This Bill is still awaiting action on the House floor, and has been since Spring.

(c) Mental Health and Wellness Commission Held Final Hearings

The final hearing was held in Detroit. The Commission's report is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

(d) SB 510 and HB 4959

SB 510 and HB 4959 are bills that exempt individuals sixty-five years of age or older, from having to maintain personal injury protection on their no-fault auto insurance.

**Matter Two -
New Business**

Matter 2.01 Bylaw Amendment

Paul Sturgul moved to approve the amendment to the Section Bylaws. This amendment was already approved by Council at the August 3rd Council Meeting—see Matter 1.03 of the August Minutes. So the Council's Bylaw vote at the August meeting, and thereafter published in the ELDRS newsletter (Elder Law and Disability Rights Section Update, Summer Edition, Volume 3, Issue 2) was taken to a final vote at today's Annual Meeting of the Section.

Motion approved unanimously by all present Council Members, as well as all present Section Members. No abstentions. A yeah vote has the effect of consummating the approval of the amendments. The new Bylaws, with the markings showing the changes, is attached.

Matter 2.02 Election of Council Members

Current Council members, whose terms are ending—that being Jill Goodell, David Kerr, and Sara Schimke—all are serving their first term, and all were willing to continue for another term

John Bos made a motion, which was consistent with the work done by the Nominating Committee. The motion elected the below individuals to Council or to another term.

The following individuals were elected to Council:

Maria Rosaria Messina – one-year term

Robert D. Mannor – three-year term

The term for three Council Members were ending. They were re-elected for another three-year term. Those Council members are:

Sara Ann Schimke

C. Jill Goodell

J. David Kerr

The motion was approved unanimously, and with no abstentions.

Matter 2.03 New Section Officers

The meeting at the Fall Conference marks the end of the term. Rosemary Buhl is now taking the position as Section Chair from Bradley Vauter. Patrick Bond is assuming the role of vice chair. John Payne takes the position as Secretary. And Michele Fuller was elected Treasurer.

Matter Three - Old Business

Matter 3.01 2014 Fall Conference – Mackinac Island, Michigan

The 2014 Fall Conference is slated for Wednesday October 1st to Friday, October 3rd. Mission Pointe has blocked a set of rooms beginning on the 30th. The contract with Mission Point Resort, where the conference will be held, has been approved.

Matter Four - Announcements

Matter 4.01 Brian G. Holt

Section member, Brian G. Holt, died on September 9th after a seven-year battle with cancer. He was forty-four years old. He will be missed.

Matter Five - Future Meetings & Adjourn

Next meeting begins at 10:00 a.m. on November 2, 2013, at the State Bar building in Lansing, Michigan.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 a.m.