

ELDRS Section Meeting
October 3, 2019
Crystal Mountain Resort, Thompsonville, Michigan

Attendance: In person - Christopher Smith*, Caroline Dellenbusch*, Jackie Rygiel-Sprague*, Angela Hentkowski*, Kelly Quardokus*, Susan Chalgian*, Nick Ryan*, Christine Caswell*, Robert Mannor*, Ray Harris*, Howard Collens*, Angela Hentkowski*, Terri Winegarden*, Maria Messina Wiersma*, Sara Schimke*, Greg Kish*, as well as approximately 120 other members of the section

Chris Smith called the meeting to order at approximately 12:40 p.m.

Agenda – Howard Collens moved and Kelly Quardokus seconded the motion to accept the agenda. Motion passed.

Minutes – Caroline Dellenbusch moved and Kelly Quardokus seconded the motion to accept the September 7, 2019 minutes. Motion passed.

Sponsorships, NAELA Litigation Fund and Treasurer's Report – Bob Mannor thanked and recognized the five sponsors who came to the conference. He also brought up the need for donations to the NAELA Litigation Fund and gave the treasurer's report.

Legislative Report – Todd Tennis gave a report on the budget issues between the House, Senate, and the governor. The governor had 147 line item vetoes, including some programs of interest to the Section. Privatizing mental health care is now on hold. The MI Choice waiver will actually have an increase of approximately five percent more slots. PACE was cut by one percent. The Section is currently trying to work with DHHS.

John Payne Fellow Scholarships – Pat Bond introduced the John Payne Fellow Scholarships in honor of John Payne's contributions to the section. Bob Mannor moved and Kelly Quardokus seconded to approve the scholarships. Motion passed.

Fall and Spring Conferences - Chris Smith thanked Angela Hentkowski and her committee for putting together this year's fall conference. Angela then announced that next year's conference would be October 7-9, 2020 in Bay City. Harley Manela announced that the Spring Conference would be on March 20, 2020 at the Inn of St. Johns.

State of the Section - Chris recounted the Section's accomplishments over the past year, including involvement with the Attorney General's Elder Abuse Task Force, holding the first Legislative Day which brought in about 30 members from around the state, free webinars organized by Maria Messina Wiersma and Tracey Rowens as a membership value, and the beginning of talks with the Department of Health and Human Services. He said the Section's finances have improved this year. Chris then noted the Section starting to address disability rights under the ADA. He also thanked the Section members who contributed their time and

talent to the *Hegadorn* decision. Chris also recognized Sara Schimke and Greg Kish for the creation of the administrative law subcommittee and thanked Caroline Dellenbush for her work on POST. Chris then encouraged the Section to stay active in pursuing legislative relationships, to maintain its diverse of non-profit and for-profit attorneys, and to keep the Section flexible to address immediate concerns. In closing, Chris stated that compared to other Bar sections, ELDRS is made up of “weirdos” who skip procedural formalities for the good of the cause.

Chris Smith then introduced the proposed ELDRS Council members: Shannon DeWall, Catherine Jacobs, Erin Mortenson, and Amanda Murray and asked for the approval of Ray Harris for a second term. Sara Schimke motioned to accept the roster and Terri Winegarden seconded. The motion passed. Chris then turned the chair position over to Kelly Quardokus.

Kelly explained how she would like to do an “unmeeting” after the regular Council meetings for new members who may have questions about the Section and emphasized that ELDRS was going to do more to address disability rights.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 1:20 p.m.