

**MINUTES OF THE STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN 2021 REAL PROPERTY LAW SECTION
ANNUAL SECTION AND COUNCIL MEETING**

JULY 21, 2021

Zoom Meeting

The annual meeting of the members of the Council of the Real Property Law Section was called to order at approximately 3:05 P.M. Chairperson King called the meeting to order. Pursuant to Article IX, Section 5 of the Bylaws Chairperson King gave permission for Section members to be deemed present by participating in this meeting by means of Zoom videoconference. She verified and acknowledged the presence of Section members who registered for this meeting. Brandy Mathie noted for the minutes that we have a quorum of voting members present for the Council and the Section.

Present:

Council Members: Lorri King (Chair), Brian Foley, John Gaber, Greg Gamalski, Jessica Hallmark, Tom Kabel, Scott Lesser, Leslee Lewis, Jason Long, Mike Luberto, Brandy Mathie, Dawn Patterson, Scott Timmer, Roxana Zaha and Cathy LaMont (Immediate Past Chair)

Ex Officio: Melissa Collar, Brian Henry, Jerry Pesick Nick Scavone and Kim Shierk

Other Section Members on Zoom call: Please see attached Exhibit A

Section Administrator: Karen Schwartz

ANNUAL SECTION MEETING

Chairperson King provided a brief recap of the year. A quote of the recap is as follows:

“Good morning and thank you for joining us. My name is Lorri King and I am the Chair of the Section for the next 10 minutes or so...Before getting to our business today, I would like to acknowledge the Past Chairs of the Section in attendance:

Jerry Pesick
Kim Shierk
Brian Henry
Melissa Collar
Nick Scavone
Cathy LaMont

We thank you for participating on this call and for continuing to go above and beyond for the Section. It's wonderful to see and hear from you all even if it's just virtual!

The past twelve months presented the Section with some unique challenges, particularly in light of the uncertainty caused by restrictions imposed due to Covid 19. However, through the efforts of our dedicated CLE Chair, Jason Long and the CLE Committee, the Council, Standing Committee Chairs, Special Committee Co-Chairs, and our amazing Administrator, Karen Schwartz, the Section was able to meet the needs of our members and enhance opportunities for members to be involved in the Section. As a brief recap:

Our Virtual Real Estate Outlook was a tremendous success thanks in no small part to our Program Chair, Scott Lesser.

Homeward Bound continued our success in a well-attended session on legislation and new developments in January and we have Jessica Hallmark to thank for that along with the rest of the CLE team. The March Homeward Bound program was put together by Brian Foley and included a presentation on the Marketable Record Title Act along with a case law update. That program attracted 121 registrants and was attended by a record number of Section members!

The Real Property Academy I took place virtually over a four-day period, through the leadership of Mike Luberto and the other original directors of the Academy, David Nykanen, Tom Kabel, Rick Rattner and Glen Zatz. The program was well received and included over 90 participants.

Thanks to the innovative approach suggested by Membership Chair Leslee Lewis and the Membership Committee, along with the assistance of Jason Long, our Section launched the “Ask the Expert” program, aimed at our younger members. With the help of our Special Committees, we held four very successful and well attended programs this year, offering participants a chance to interact with the experts in those particular areas of the law and ask them questions in an informal setting.

Our Section continues to be actively involved in legislation in the State of Michigan. Tom Kabel has worked closely with our lobbyist throughout the year and, with the assistance of former Section Chairs, Nick Scavone and Cathy LaMont, is in the process of working with other State Bar Sections and stake holders to rewrite the Marketable Record Title Act.

While this past year presented unprecedented challenges, it also served to demonstrate the commitment and dedication of our Section leaders to enhancing the practice of real estate law for our members regardless of the circumstances. In addition, Karen did a great job working with the event centers to position us in our contracts so that we did not pay cancellation fees for those events that needed to be cancelled, which resulted in a financially successful year!

It has truly been my pleasure to act as Chair of this amazing Section and as I step away from my role as Chair, I am confident that this Section is in good hands with our incoming Chair, Greg Gamalski and, of course, our Administrator, Karen Schwartz, who always makes everything so easy for the Chair.

We will now attend to some business. We have allotted 10 minutes for this, so please excuse the pace.”

Approval of Minutes

Chairperson King proposed approval of the minutes of the July 17, 2020 Annual Meeting by unanimous consent. No members raised objection so the Motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

Section Annual Report

Chairperson King encouraged members to review the Annual Report, a copy of which was contained in the conference materials.

Nominating Committee Report – Election of Members and Officers

Ron Reynolds, Chair of the Section’s Nominating Committee has requested “Rising Star” Kevin Hirzel to present the nominations for Council from the Nominating Committee. The following Section members were nominated for Council terms expiring in 2024:

- Scott Lesser (Completing term of Lorri King)
- Aileen Leipprandt (1st term)
- John Gaber (2nd term)
- Roxana Zaha (2nd term)

No further nominations were made from the floor.

Motion to Approve the Election of Council Members

Chairperson King requested a motion to vote by voice vote for election of the Council Members nominated by the Nominating Committee rather than by written ballot. Tom Kabel made the motion. Mike Luberto seconded the motion. No objections were raised and the approval and election as Council Members of the individuals nominated by the Nominating Committee thereafter carried unanimously by voice vote and not written ballots by the Section members present.

No other business was brought before the membership of the Section. Chairperson King proposed by unanimous consent that the Annual Meeting of the Real Property Section Members be closed. There was no objection and the meeting was concluded.

ANNUAL RPLS COUNCIL MEETING

Approval of Minutes

Chairperson King proposed approval of the minutes of the July 17, 2020 Council Meeting by unanimous consent. No members raised an objection, so the Motion passed unanimously.

Election of Officers

On behalf of the Nominating Committee, Kevin Hirzel noted that in accordance with Section Bylaws, Gregory Gamalski will automatically ascend to the position of Chairperson, and Thomas Kabel will

automatically ascend to the position of Chairperson-Elect. The following Council Members were nominated for the remaining offices:

- Dawn Patterson, Vice-Chairperson
- Michael Luberto, Treasurer
- Jason Long, Secretary

There were no nominations from the floor.

Chairperson King requested a motion to vote by voice vote for the election as officers of the individuals nominated by the Nominating Committee. Brian Foley made the motion. Roxana Zaha seconded the motion.

No objections were raised and the approval and election as officers of the individuals nominated by the Nominating Committee thereafter carried unanimously by voice vote, and not written ballots, by Council Members only.

LAND TITLE STANDARDS COMMITTEE MEETING

The Land Title Committee held its annual meeting at this time, chaired by Kim Shierk. Chairperson Shierk proposed approval of the minutes of the July 17, 2020 meeting by unanimous consent. No members raised objection so the Motion to approve the minutes passed unanimously.

Chairperson Shierk proposed approval of the Land Title Standards Committee Membership for 2021-2022. Hearing and seeing no LTS Committee members raise objection to the Roster of the Committee Members for 2021-2022, the Roster of the Committee Members for 2021-2022 was approved by unanimous consent.

A motion was made by Cathy LaMont, as member of the MLTS Committee, to elect the officers. Kelly Myers, as member of the MLTS Committee, seconded the motion. The motion approving the officers as recommended by the Nominating Committee passed. The following individuals were elected unanimously as Officers of the Land Title Standards Committee by those Land Title Standing Committee members present after a motion duly made and seconded: Kelly A. Myers as Chairperson, Jeffrey C. Hicks as Vice-Chairperson and Nicholas P. Scavone as Secretary.

As provided under Article 2, Section 5 of the Bylaws of the Real Property Law Section Stacey Barbe was appointed as the Land Title Standards Committee's liaison to the RPLS Council by Committee Chairperson Shierk.

The Michigan Land Title Standards Committee approved its roster and elected its officers. The Land Title Standards Committee meeting was then adjourned.

Chairperson King recommended approval of the roster of the Michigan Land Title Standards Committee by unanimous consent of the Council. Hearing no objection, the roster and officers elected were confirmed.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND AWARDS PRESENTATION

Chairperson King extended remarks of appreciation to the Council, Officers, Committee Chairs and members for their work throughout the year. She extended a special thanks to Karen Schwartz for her great contributions to the Section.

Chairperson King then presented a gavel to Gregory Gamalski recognizing his new position as Chairperson and the beginning of his term.

On behalf of the Section and Council, Mr. Gamalski thanked Ms. King for her steady leadership and many years of service and dedication to the Section and to Council. Mr. Gamalski virtually presented Ms. King with a plaque, a gift card, and a crown to send her merrily on her way to her next adventure, while welcoming her back often to Section and Council activities as most recent Past Chairperson.

There being no further business, Chairperson King proposed unanimous consent to close the Annual Section Meeting. No members raised objection so the Motion to close the Meeting passed unanimously. The Meeting was adjourned at 3:20 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael A. Luberto