

State Bar of Michigan LGBTQA Section Council Meeting Minutes

Monthly Meeting – December 7, 2022 3:30 p.m.- 5:00p.m.

Present:

Executive Committee: Angie Martell (Chair), Chris Yared (Chair-Elect)

Council: Jessie Theume, Alecia Golm, Katie Stanley, Kaylie Straka, John Allen

Section Members were also present.

Absent Council members – Amanda Shelton, Alanah Haskin, Kerene Moore, and Alan Baldrige

1. **Welcome** - Angie
 - a. Introductions
2. **Self-Care Workshop** – Was held at 4:00pm. Katie Stanley and Angie Martell did the presentations. A powerpoint was used and the workshop was recorded and is now contained in the Section Library.
3. **Motion to Approve of Minutes from November Meeting** – Angie (made the motion), John Allen (seconded motion), motion approved 7 yay, 0 no, 0 abstention)

Approved by Chris Yared, Angie Martell, John Allen, Jessie Theume, Alecia Golm, Katie Stanley, and Kaylie Straka

4. **Chair Report** – Angie Martell discussed what an exciting year and month it has been. Angie said her mantra going forward is ENERGIZE, ORGANIZE, INSPIRE, AND LEAD. Angie discussed the following issues in their report:

- Administrative issues such as the name change to LGBTQ+ which is expected to occur if approved by SBM in December.
 - Lavender Law – When it is happening and what to expect.
 - AMICUS brief submitted for consideration for best brief in the Cooley Law Journal Review process,
 - Request to see if law professors not admitted to practice could be section members. Everyone agreed that this conversation should be tabled until January 2023.
 - Proposal for the Judicial Conference – Everyone agreed it would be a good idea to submit the proposal and Katie agreed to help with the draft along with other council members.
 - Speaker series – Angie reminded everyone we have another speaker series in March at the Council meeting. The presenter is the U.S. Department of Justice Civil Rights Division.
5. **Chair-Elect Report** – Chris Yared – Chris did not have anything new to report.
6. **Treasurer's Report** - Tabled to the January 2023 meeting since the Treasurer could not be present.
7. **Old Business**
1. **Changes to Section Website/Social Media/Gmail account** – Jessie presented on all the amazing developments in our social media accounts as well as our gmail account.
 2. **Amicus Pueblo** – Angie Martell & Jay Kaplan – Tabled until January 2023

3. **Amendments/By Laws Update** – Don Wheaton – nothing new to report. Tabled until January 2023
4. **Law Students/Law School Outreach** –Angie gave a presentation of the recent outreach to law students. Two MSU students attended the meeting from that outreach.
5. **Public Policy Positions**—Kaylie/Angie - No new public policy positions presently.
6. **Benchcards**—Chris Yared

Chris gave an intensive and through presentation on the bench cards and informed Council that the bench cards would be available in March. Alecia Golm will be assisting and reaching out to the State Bar to see if they assist in the printing.

Motion – Chris made a motion and it was seconded by Alecia Golm to increase the monies allotted to printing the card. Motion made was to allot \$750-\$1,000 to get the bench card printed and completed. 7 yays -Angie, Chris, Alecia, Jessie, John, Katie, and Kaylie.

7. **National Bar Affiliations**—Angie informed the Council that our Section was now an affiliate of the National LGBTQ+ Law Association.
8. **Michigan Public School Equity issues**—Tabled for January 2023 meeting.

8. **New Business**

1. Kalamazoo Judge refusing to allow filings of step parent adoption proceedings for married parents where their names are present on the birth certificate. Tabled for January 2023 speakers were not present.

2. LGBTQ Pro Bono Work beyond litigation - Tabled for January 2023 meeting
 3. Criminalization Bill Transgender Children- Tabled for January 2023 meeting.
 4. CLE Committee – Peter Kulas-Dominguez discussed the committee’s continued work to produce a journal. Peter reminded attendees that monies have been allocated for this and the biggest shout out for now is to gather authors for articles. Peter said that the idea was to have two section publications for the year.
 5. Meeting organization – Tabled for January 2023 meeting.
 - a. Use of poll or other device to set meeting dates and times
 - b. Research with the State Bar of Michigan resources of Zoom meetings:
Council meetings, Executive meeting, general body meetings, Presentation to the public
- 9. Next Meeting: January 4, 2022 11. Adjourned at 4:30pm to allow for the workshop presentations.**