

STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN  
PRISONS & CORRECTIONS SECTION COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
State Bar Building  
Lansing, MI. 48823  
May 5, 2018

Chairperson Sandy Girard called the meeting to order at 10:10AM.

**1. Attendances and Welcome:**

**Present:** Sandy Girard, Mike Marutiak, Barb Levine, Pat Streeter, Monica Jahner, Michelle VanDusen, Korbin Felder, Keith Barber, Kyle Kaminski, David Gilbert, John Cooper, Carol Siemon, Marilena David-Martin, Jackie Ouvry, Gary Kasenow, Doug Shapiro and Ron Emery

**Excused Absences:** Nicole George,

**Guest:** Dan Mannville

**2. Adoption of Agenda:**

On motion by Doug Shapiro, seconded by John Cooper, the agenda presented was adopted unanimously.

**3. Approval of April Minutes:**

On motion by Mike Marutiak, seconded by Pat Streeter the April 7 minutes were unanimously approved.

**4. Treasurer's Report**

Pat Streeter reported by e-mail that our accounts have not changed since April's report. The YTD balance is still the largest in recent memory at \$8,184.03. On Motion by Ron Emery, seconded by Jackie Ouvry, the report was accepted and placed on file.

**5. Executive and Legislative Initiatives**

**A. "Zero Tolerance" policy modification**

John reported that visitors who come to visit with weapons, drugs, cell phones, tools, and prescription drugs will be turned away and not allowed in that day. Other items like money, cigarettes, and watches are also barred but can be returned to car and visitor allowed in that day.

**B. Law Libraries**

Kyle reported that there was a complaint at the Gus Harrison Facility that SADO and Dan Manville's legal treatises and books had been mistakenly thrown out. As it turned out, the prison librarian had been waiting for updates. Kyle reported that this was a case of good intent but poor execution.

### **C. Good Time Bills**

John Cooper reported that Reps. LeGrande and Howlett had recycled ten-year-old bills to reinstate good time as done before the 1978 voter initiative. John suggested that the P & C establish a work group to come up with alternative good time legislation. Sandy appointed Korbin, John, Michelle, Barb and herself to this committee. Dan Manville volunteered to for the committee too. John was made the chairperson.

## **6. Old Business**

### **A. Parole Decision Standards Bill (HB 5377)**

John reported that the bill was reported out of committee in April. The bill had been negotiated between PAAM and MDOC. Three changes were made; 1) Certain specific impermissible reasons to deny were excluded, 2) A negative psych evaluation was added, 3) lack of an adequate parole plan was also added. These only apply to offenders with a high probability of risk.

Kyle noted that certain programs require convicts to come up with their own life plans. It is expected that they will actively participate in developing a plan on how they can succeed on parole. Without this, MDOC is concerned that the inmates will begin to believe that parole is guaranteed.

Sandy saw the need for a parole preparation program for inmates. Kyle noted that this would be costly and therefore unlikely.

Gary is concerned about Section 33e(F) (page 4) would allow denials based on "suspect" status. This would allow open-ended denials with no time limits. Kyle responded that the legislation requires an objective basis for denial.

Sandy tabled further consideration on whether the council should take a position on the bill.

### **B. June Program Committee**

Marilena reported that the program is set and registration is now open and we will allow law students to attend free. An e-blast was sent out publicizing the event, which deals with mental health issues before, during and after incarceration.

### **C. Revised Draft of the GPS position statement**

The statement was revised to address some but not all of the objections. On a vote to approve the revised statement, 7 voted yes, Ron and Mike voted nay, and Doug abstained.

### **D. Newsletter**

Pat Streeter reported the newsletter would be sent out at the end of next week with June program and registration information in it.

**E. Law Library Tour**

Kyle reported that the next available date is June 22<sup>nd</sup>. The best day of the week is always a Friday.

**7. New Business**

**A. June program**

Mike reported that the programs, to be co-sponsored with this section will occur on Friday June 15<sup>th</sup> and Saturday June 16<sup>th</sup>. The topics covered will include Computer Forensics, roadside testing, cell phones, recognition of drug experts, and suboxone and naloxone,

**B. Annual Meeting**

The Sections annual meeting will be held in Grand Rapids during the State Bar’s Annual Meeting. Sandy appointed Dan Manville chair of the election committee for that meeting. Four positions are open for the coming year: Mike Marutiak, Jackie Ouvry, Doug Shapiro, and Pat Streeter. Mike and Pat are eligible for reelection and have agree do run. Monica Jahner and Nicole George also wish to continue. Doug offered to suggest a possible judicial candidate to replace himself.

**C. Leadership Training Expense**

On motion by Ron, seconded by John, the council voted unanimously to authorize up to \$300 to pay for leadership training for section leaders.

**E. Chair-elect Volunteers**

Sandy Girard solicited a volunteer to take over the chairperson position at the end of her term in June. Mike tentatively volunteered.

**8. Adjournment:**

On motion by Ron Emery, seconded by John Cooper, the meeting was adjourned at 12:04 PM with the next meeting to be the first Saturday of October (the 6<sup>th</sup>) at the State Bar Building. The motion carried.

Ron Emery  
Secretary

/S/

Secretary  
May 26, 2018  
As amended per October 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting

/S/  
October 29, 2018

