

**State Bar of Michigan  
Marijuana Law Section  
Council Meeting**

**Monthly Meeting of December 19, 2016  
2:00 – 5:00 p.m.**

**Michael Franck Building  
306 Townsend St.  
Lansing, MI 48933-2012**

**Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 2:05.

Attendance:

At SBM: None

By phone: Dan Grow, Mary Chartier, Bob Hendricks, Bernie Jocuns, Bruce Block, Matt Abel, Michael Komorn, Barton Morris, Karl Numinen, Jennifer Grieco

Absent: None

1. Motion made and passed unanimously to approve Agenda.
2. Motion made and passed unanimously to approve November 21, 2016 minutes of MLS Council meeting.
3. Treasurer reports for year ending September 30, 2016, and months of October and November 2016 were reviewed and approved. Bob Hendricks noted that as of Nov 30, 2016, the fund balance was \$35,181. The Firekeepers conference financial results showed revenue of \$30,906 and expenses of \$28,077.11, for a net income of \$2,828.89. Expenses of Paul Armentano are yet to be submitted.
4. Dan Grow reported that he and Bob Hendricks will be meeting with the Director of LARA and two other LARA representatives at the LARA offices in Lansing on December 22, 2016 to discuss the MLS and its possible role in

the development of Rules and Regulations under the MMFLA. Michael Komorn will join that meeting. Dan did not want the MLS to have more attendees than LARA, so we will limit our number to 3.

5. Dan Grow reported the he and Bob Hendricks represented the MLS at a meeting held by the Marijuana Policy Project “listening tour” in Grand Rapids on December 15. The MPP meeting was designed by MPP to gain information to allow them to decide in the next couple weeks if they will assist in future adult use legalization efforts in Michigan.

Other MPP tours were held in Lansing and Detroit the same week. Matt Able attended both those meetings. Matt reported that he believes that MPP will probably decide to assist in Michigan, depending on the details and scope of proposed legalization initiatives.

Discussion of creating a liaison between MLS Council and MPP. Dan Grow and Matt Able will cooperate as joint liaisons to MPP.

6. MIlegalize requested assistance from the MLS in drafting language for a voter initiative for legalization of adult use in Michigan.

Barton Morris suggested that the MLS could act to communicate the MIlegalize needs to the MLS membership and invite members to contact MIlegalize directly to assist. There was discussion of whether that contact should come from a MLS Council member or from the MLS Legislative Committee. Barton will raise this question with Doug Mains, the Chair of that Committee. If they agree, they will do the communication to members. The communication is time-sensitive.

7. Doug Mains provided dates of January 17 or 18 for an education session for new legislators to introduce the new lawmakers to the law of marijuana in Michigan. MLS Council will have representatives at Lansing on either date. Dan Grow will confirm to Doug and finalize date and location.

Dan Grow will ask Doug Mains to also draft a letter to the new Chairs of the Criminal Justice and Judiciary Committees to try to set up a similar meeting

of MLS Council members to discuss the MLS as a resource for legislators. Doug will be asked to share the draft letter with Dan before it goes out.

8. Dan Grow reported that Firekeepers was not able to accommodate the MLS Conference for any dates in September or October, 2017. Dan also reported that the MGM Grand Detroit was able to accommodate the group on Sept 7-9. A motion was made and unanimously approved to authorize Dan to commit to the MGM Grand for those dates.

There was further discussion about where future MLS conferences could and should be held. It was agreed that this will be an agenda item for the January MLS Council meeting. We will also discuss at the next meeting the establishment of a task force to plan future meetings.

9. Discussion of Amicus Committee. Dan Grow has obtained the agreement of Shyler Engel to assist on the current amicus request. Shyler's draft will be circulated to the MLS Council members for review and approval.

There was discussion of whether the MLS should compensate for amicus writing. It was observed that many attorneys have made significant contributions to the MLS without compensation, and that the amicus writing role was similar to that. The Council did not support payment of amicus writers.

Karl Numinen indicated that he was not willing to act as Chair of the Amicus Committee. The Council will consider a new Chair at the January meeting.

10. Dan Grow was not able to complete contacting the chairs of all existing Committees to establish a reporting procedure. Dan will attempt to get those contacts done before the next meeting.
11. Bob Hendricks will get a report from Ben Wrigley on the status of a possible draft model ordinance that the Zoning and Property Committee was working on. Bob will report to Dan.

12. Mary Chartier reported that the Education Committee will work with the SBM on the best way to develop a database of expertise within the MLS membership. This database could be useful in providing contact information for lawyers with particular skills what may be wanted for seminars, etc.

13. Mary will report at the January meeting on ideas for the one-day conference in Spring 2017 by the MLS on current topics (potentially including MMFLA Rules and Regs) and to establish a working group to organize the conference. Those who attend the LARA meeting on Dec 22 can report on any insights that meeting provided on the timing of rule and regulation issuance.

14. New business:

Bernie Jocuns mentioned that attorney Bill Swor had joined the MLS and was interested in doing Committee work for the MLS. Mary suggested that Bill could join the Education Committee. Bernie will follow up.

The next meeting of the MLS Council will be January 16, 2017 at Mary Chartier's office at 2:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert A. Hendricks  
Sec/Treasurer