

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

**Monthly Meeting of February 20, 2017
2:00 – 5:00 p.m.**

**Alane & Chartier, PLC
403 Seymour Ave.
Lansing, MI 48933**

Minutes

Meeting called to order at 2:06.

Attendance:

At A&C: Dan Grow, Mary Chartier, Bob Hendricks, Bruce Block

By phone: Bernie Jocuns, Matt Abel, Michael Komorn, Barton Morris

Absent: Karl Numinen

Other attendees: Lance Boldrey, Roma Thurin, Shaun Mansaur

1. Motion made and passed unanimously to approve Agenda.
2. Motion made and passed unanimously to approve January 16, 2017 minutes of MLS Council meeting.
3. Treasurer reports for four months ending January 31, 2017 were reviewed and approved.
4. Dan Grow opened the floor for a discussion on the MIOWIA/MLS joint event. The Council agreed that Allen Peisner would be given time (1/2 hour) to present an update on developing caselaw. Barton Morris reported that the event will be held May 12-13 at The Henry in Dearborn. Precise times were not reported. Because of Barton's joint membership in both groups, he was authorized by the Council to organize the MLS role, develop an agenda, and develop a budget, all with ongoing notice to Dan Grow. Motion to authorize Barton's role unanimously approved. Barton was asked to coordinate with

the SBM to be certain that the SBM rules for joint programs were understood and followed.

5. MMFLA issues.

- A. Peter Cunningham raised an issue and requested MLS input: How are the various taxing authorities in Michigan going to get their tax payments, if there is no generally available banking system for licensees?

Discussion of current unsettled Federal law made predictions of bank availability uncertain. Bob H to write Peter (and cc MLS Council) and advise that MLS Council discussed but has no proposed solution.

- B. Response to Shelly Edgerton, Director of LARA, regarding her request for input on 8 questions about MMFLA rules and regs.

Discussion that possible conflicting opinions and client positions among members of Council, and short time frame for responses, would prevent development of a MLS position statement for the February request. Council agreed that Lance Boldrey and Bob H would write Shelly (and cc MLS Council) and advise of this, but also inform Shelly that the MLS intended to develop positions on certain issues in the MMFLA and would submit those to LARA.

6. MPP Drafting Committee requested public comments on a draft of a ballot initiative for adult use legalization. After some discussion, the Chair indicated that the MLS Council would not take a formal position. Members are free to comment as they see fit.

7. MLS Fall Conference

- A. Dan Grow reported that several members of the MLS Council will visit the MGM Grand in Detroit at 3:00 pm on February 24 to make a final approval decision for this facility for September 7-9, 2017.

B. Discussion of food choices. The Section will be looking for members to manage this process once we decide on MGM Grand.

C. As members review the MGM space, the availability of space for breakout sessions to increase the number and diversity of speakers will become clear.

Lance Boldrey and Bruce Block agreed to develop a list of possible presenters who might also be willing to provide sponsorships in return for access to the Conference. They will provide their report to Dan Grow.

Dan Grow asked all members to develop lists of possible Conference speakers, tentatively determine their availability, and report the names to Dan by February 24.

8. MJ Journal, next issue? Michael Komorn reported that there is no set timetable for the next MJ Journal. He will contact the Committee to determine their thoughts. Michael will also use the MLS listserv to solicit authors for upcoming issues of the MJ Journal.
9. Student Participation. The SBM has notified the MLS of certain law student who are interested in participating in the Section. This matter will be referred to Brandon Gardner, Young Lawyers Committee Chair, for attention. Bernard Jocuns will contact Brandon and request that Brandon invite interested students to the next Young Lawyers meeting.
10. Koon Jury Instruction. Bernard Jocuns reported on the work of his subcommittee. Bernie will submit to the MLS Council for approval (which may be via email) a submission to the Representative Assembly of a proposed Koon Jury Instruction Resolution.
11. Michigan House of Representatives, Law and Justice Committee – DUID question. Barton Morris will submit to Representatives Kesto and Lucido a copy of the MLS position paper Barton prepared several months ago.

12.SBM annual meeting - the Wednesday awards banquet. Bernard Jocuns reminded the Council that at the 2016 SBM meeting, several firms had strong attendance at the Awards banquet, which was very impressive. Bernie suggested that the MLS should encourage members to attend. The Council supports use of the MLS funds to potentially purchase a number of seats or tables, and use attendance to reward effort by Section members in accomplishing Section objectives. This matter can be revised in subsequent meetings as needed.

13.Amicus requests. The Council is not aware of any pending requests.

14.Committee updates. The Council identified all the current Committees:

- Amicus
- Business
- Criminal
- Education
- Ethics
- Medical marijuana
- Membership/Sponsorship
- Publications
- Rules/Lawmaking
- Technology and Social Media
- Veterans
- Young Lawyers
- Zoning & Property
- Science

After discussion of the roles of the various committees the Council determined to eliminate the Amicus, Criminal and Medical Marijuana Committees. Dan Grow will contact the Chairs of those Committees and thank them for their willingness to Chair. Motion made and approved unanimously. Dan Grow will also request the Chairs of all remaining Committees to provide periodic reports on Committee action including scheduled meetings.

15.Other business. None.

The next meeting of the MLS Council will be March 20, 2017 at the State Bar of Michigan office at 2:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert A. Hendricks
Sec/Treasurer