

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

**Monthly Meeting of May 15, 2017  
2:00 – 5:00 p.m.**

**State Bar of Michigan  
Michael Franck Building  
306 Townsend St.  
Lansing, MI 48933-2012**

**Minutes**

Meeting called to order at 2:10.

Attendance in person:

Dan Grow, Bob Hendricks

Attendance by phone:

Matt Abel, Mary Chartier, Bernie Jocuns, Barton Morris, Allison Arnold  
(joined during item #9 below)

Absent: Michael Komorn, Bruce Block

Other attendees: none

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1. Agenda amended to add SBM Annual Meeting program planning. Motion made and passed unanimously to approve Agenda as amended.
  2. Review of April 17 minutes. Typographical error in draft corrected. Motion made and passed unanimously to approve April 17, 2017 minutes of MLS Council meeting.
  3. Treasurer reports for six months ending April 17, 2017 were reviewed and unanimously approved.

4. Dan Grow requested a report from Barton Morris on the MIOOWIA/MLS joint event held May 12-13 at James B. Henry Conference Center at Michigan State University in Lansing.

- Barton reported there were that 57 paid attendees at the conference, and the program was well received.
- Barton reported that the MIOOWIA Board was able to negotiate the conference costs down to allow a “break even” or maybe a small profit.
- Barton reported that Judge Mary Celeste’s fee was \$2,500 plus her travel and lodging expenses.

5. The Council outlined the slate of speakers lined up so far for the 2017 MLS Annual Conference September 7-9 at MGM Grand Detroit. Currently, the following speakers are committed:

- Paul Armentano
- Jeff Irwin
- Tim McGraw
- Matt Borgula
- Andrew Ittleman
- Allen Peisner
- Andrew Brisbo (or Shelly Edgerton, or Colleen Curtis)

Other potential speakers include:

- Prof. Stolz
- Prof. Michelle Alexander
- A Famous marijuana personality

**Bob Hendricks will provide Dan Grow by May 17** a revised draft of the schedule and speakers. Dan will make further revisions and circulate to MLS Council by end of day May 19.

**MLS Council will meet by conf. phone call Monday May 22 at 2:00 to finalize initial outline for publication.** An invitation to the MLS Council was emailed May 16.

6. Michael Komorn was unable to update the Council on the status of the MJ Journal.
7. Young Lawyers and Law Students. Dan Grow has discussed with Brandon Gardner the steps previously approved. Brandon will implement.
8. Council resignation – Karl Numinen resigned from his Council position as of April 17, 2017. Pursuant to Article VI, Section 6 of the MLS Bylaws, his position may be filled by the remaining members of the Council by majority vote. Karl’s position comes up for vote at the Annual Meeting in September 2017. After discussion and input from several Council members, the Council unanimously voted to request Allison Arnold to fill the vacant position through the balance of the term. Bernie Jocuns was asked to convey that request to Allison.
9. State Bar Annual Meeting – September 27, 2017. **Mary Chartier will work with Bob Hendricks to prepare an agenda for the MLS component of the SBM Annual Meeting.** **[Allison Arnold joins meeting by phone.]** Possible topics to include an update on the MMFLA implementation by LARA, and summary of MGM meeting Sept 7-9.
10. Dan Grow requested input on whether the MLS could and should support the adult use recreational ballot initiative. Bernie made a motion that the MLS should endorse approval of the initiative. Discussion of the motion followed:

The Coalition to Regulate Marijuana Like Alcohol (<https://www.regulatemi.org/>) has recently completed a proposed ballot initiative to legalize adult use of marijuana in Michigan called The Michigan Regulation and Taxation of Marihuana Act (“MRTMA”). The ballot proposal has been submitted to the State Board of Canvassers for approval.

The Council reviewed the MLS Bylaws and determined that endorsement of MRTMA would not violate any provision of the Bylaws, and is consistent with Article III, clause 3 of those Bylaws. Endorsement would not be contrary to any official position taken by the State Bar of Michigan. Any endorsement

would disclaim any official support by the State Bar of Michigan. The Council determined it has the authority to endorse MRTMA if it votes to do so.

The motion to endorse MRTMA was not acted upon, and shall be considered as tabled. Follow-up steps are:

Dan and Bob Hendricks will confer with Peter Cunningham to verify that there are no SBM prohibitions. The Council will solicit input from MLS members. A notice will be placed on the listserv inviting that input. Bob Hendricks will draft the notice for Dan's review and posting.

11. The Officers of the Council (Chair, Chair-elect and Sec/Treasurer) intend to attend the SBM Leadership meeting on June 9-10 on Mackinaw Island. Bernie Jocuns and Mary Chartier support the reimbursement of expenses for this activity as advancing the goals and mission of the MLS. The officers may submit to the Treasurer their requests for reimbursement of expenses, which will be subject to review by the Council as a part of the monthly financial report review and approval.

12. Other business. None.

The next meeting of the MLS Council will be June 19, 2017 at the State Bar of Michigan office at 2:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert A. Hendricks  
Sec/Treasurer