

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
INSURANCE AND INDEMNITY LAW SECTION
COUNCIL MEETING and Holiday Reception**

November 29, 2016, 4:00 p.m.

at

Birmingham Athletic Club
4033 W. Maple Rd.
Bloomfield Hills, MI

ATTENDANCE

Adam Kutinsky- Chairperson
Jason Liss- Treasurer
Kathleen Lopilato – Immediate Past Chairperson
Larry Bennett – Chairperson Elect
Hal Carroll
Patrick Crandell
Rabih Hamawi
Nicole Wilinski
Renee VanderHagen
Doug Young
Joe Ahern
Larry Elkos
Henry Ibe
John Bommarito

4:08 pm. **CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME** –Adam Kutinsky, Chair opened the meeting, established that a quorum was present, and welcomed new members and visitors. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** from the September 2016 Annual Meeting was by motion, second and vote in favor. Minutes were approved and accepted.

TREASURER’S REPORT by Jason Liss, who reported that our balance as of September 2016 was \$33,088.35, expenses were \$17, 850 in 2016 compared to \$17,300 in 2015.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT by Jason Liss, who reported that we have approximately 932 members per the State Bar office.

CHAIR REPORT by Adam Kutinsky. Our first program of 2016 was to occur the same evening as the Council meeting, and holiday reception. We will anticipate 2 additional programs in 2017, one organized by the Program Committee, and one organized by the Education Committee. Adam nominated Renee VanderHagen to Chair the Education Committee, and Renee accepted. Nicole Wilinski offered to assist.

We discussed the importance of The Journal, which Hal Carroll produces every quarter as Editor and Chair of the Publication Committee. Adam offered to join and assist him going forward. We discussed that the bylaws require either active participation in a Section Committee by the Council members, or the submission of an article to at least one of the issues of The Journal.

Adam noted that the Membership Committee needed a Chairperson, and we welcome Rabih Hamawi to that role, along with Pat Crandell.

EDITOR'S REPORT by Hal Carroll, who reported on the anticipated article on "Other Insurance Clauses" by Rabih Hamawi. He also introduced a new regular feature writer for The Journal will be Jason Liss on Property Insurance. Hal would welcome articles on topics that he has suggested in the past, but is open to other topics as well. We discussed whether the format of The Journal is such that "point/counter-point" articles could be published. Hal pointed out that, on the last page of The Journal, he invites articles that rebut or are counterpoints to published articles, and disclaims the opinions expressed in The Journal articles as not being representative of the Committee.

NEW BUSINESS- Adam raised the issue of a Student Scholarship, as established in our newly - amended bylaws. We would like to begin this in 2017. We discussed how we would like to identify a law student recipient interested in Insurance Law, and extend the Scholarship to assist with the cost of law school. We discussed the method of identifying this student recipient and considered a writing contest. We discussed the benefit of reaching out to law school professors who teach classes related to insurance law, such as Lisa DeMoss at Cooley, for guidance. Also, we need to make sure that the State Bar will allow us to establish such a scholarship in this fashion. Adam and Rabih to explore more and report to the Committee.

Legislative liaison- we discussed whether our Committee should have a more active interest in the insurance-related laws being discussed in our state legislature and report on relevant activity in The Journal. Pat Crandell indicated that he is involved with the Oakland County Legislative Committee for the Oakland County Bar Association, and agreed to bring the issues he learns about there to our future meetings. In that way, we might become a resource for other attorneys seeking information on the status of insurance-related bills in the Michigan Legislature.

NEXT MEETING

Quarterly Meeting Tuesday, April 11, 2017 4:00 pm
Office of Collins Einhorn in Southfield.

ADJOURNED at 4:45 pm

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Augustine O. Igwe
Augustine O. Igwe
Secretary