

COUNCIL OF THE PUBLIC CORPORATION LAW SECTION OF THE STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN

Minutes of the October 8, 2005 Meeting

A regular meeting of the Council of the Public Corporation Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan was held on Saturday, October 8, 2005 at the offices of Miller Canfield, Lansing, Michigan. The meeting started at approximately 10:00 AM.

Members participating included: L. Bluhm, D. Matson, C. McKone, C. Robinson, D. Schmidt, J. Sluggett, J. Tamm, D. Walling, M. Watza and K. So. Absent members included: W. Beach, J. Beras, M. Fales, G. Fisher, M. Howe, S. Morgan, C. Rosati, K. Schloff, A. Seuryneck, and E. Williams. McKone moved, and Schmidt supported, a motion to excuse absent members. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Agenda:

So requested that the agenda be amended to add a discussion regarding A. Cavanaugh's FOIA request. There was a motion by Robinson, supported by Matson, to approve the amended agenda for the October 8, 2005 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes of the September 10, 2005 Council Meeting:

There was a motion by Schmidt, supported by Watza, to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2005 Council meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report (August, 2005)

Sluggett reported on the August, 2005 financial reports.

There was a motion by Bluhm, supported by Tamm, to approve the August, 2005 financial reports. Motion passed unanimously.

Report on Survey:

Robinson reported on the survey that he and Schmidt prepared. Initially, it was recommended that three questions be submitted to members of the Section seeking input regarding future seminars. Robinson discussed the availability of a website that could perform the survey for a fee of \$20 per month. So mentioned that through Chard, the Section can now make announcements and that this could be used to direct Section members to the survey. There was a general consensus to proceed with the survey. So encouraged Council members to forward any final ideas to Robinson.

Co-Sponsorship of ICLE Seminar in February, 2006:

So re-introduced the topic of co-sponsoring the winter seminar with ICLE. ICLE's seminar is scheduled for February 16, 2006. Walling spoke in favor of co-sponsoring, as

doing so will allow the Section to build its reserves while encouraging educational opportunities for members. Bluhm noted that the price for members attending the seminar would be reduced and that ICLE partners would attend for free. There was a motion by McKone, supported by Walling, to approve a co-sponsorship with ICLE of its municipal law seminar and to bill the same as the Section's "Winter Seminar". Motion passed unanimously. The general consensus was that the Council would hold its meeting in February prior to the ICLE/Public Corporation Law Section's winter seminar.

Summer Seminar Topics:

There were discussions regarding the need to find and identify both topics and speakers. So requested a volunteer to act as the chair of the summer seminar committee. Sluggett indicated a willingness to assist as vice chair, but would prefer not to act as chair. There were suggestions as to others who might be interested in chairing, and So indicated that he would speak with those individuals. Topic suggestions raised at the meeting included bankruptcy, K-12 funding commitments, municipal funding and financing, conditional rezonings and recent developments in the law. There was also a discussion regarding what Michigan Justice might be available to speak. Walling said she would make those contacts. Sluggett offered to send out an e-mail soliciting suggestions both as to topics and speakers.

Communications, Announcements and ListServe

So reported that the Section has now signed up for an announcement service to all members. Bluhm reminded the members that the Section's Quarterly is always looking for articles.

Section Briefs (State Bar Magazine):

So reported on the State Bar Magazine and asked whether the Council felt it advisable to include an update of the Section's activities. It was suggested that a short article be submitted identifying several recent successes involving cable television matters at the appellate level.

Amicus Request:

So introduced a request from Amy Cavanaugh, attorney for the Lansing Board of Power and Light, soliciting an amicus brief in a FOIA case. It was agreed that attention needs to be drawn to abuses under FOIA, but not to pursue this particular request.

Adjournment:

So adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeff Sluggett, Secretary/Treasurer