

MARCH 2, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

Held via Zoom

A meeting of the Government Law Section was called to order by Chair Forbush on March 2, 2024, at 10:00 a.m.

1. ATTENDANCE and EXCUSED ABSENCES

Present: Bluhm, Brown, Chubb, Fisher, Forbush, Forsyth, Joppich, Kolb, Mithani, Nettleton, Pastula, Sluggett, So, Steele, Thomas, Watza, Williams

Also Present: None

Absent: King, Mills, Tamm

Motion to Excuse Absences: Williams
Council approved by unanimous vote

Support: Mithani

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda as proposed: Nettleton
Council approved by unanimous vote

Support: Chubb

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the February 9, 2024 minutes as proposed: Bluhm

Support: Steele

Council approved by unanimous vote

4. TREASURER'S REPORT

Secretary-Treasurer Kolb reported that the revenue for the Winter Seminar was \$7,000 as of the end of January, with additional registrations coming in the first week of February leading up to the seminar. This is about \$2,000 more than the 2023 Winter Seminar.

Section dues were about even for the same period compared to 2023.

The GLS continues to maintain a healthy fund balance.

5. AMICUS COMMITTEE

Jostock v Mayfield – Member Williams reported that the amicus brief in this matter has been filed. Member Williams and Member Fisher prepared the brief, the total came to \$13,000. Invoices for the work will be submitted soon. MML will pay ½, GLS the balance.

Sakorafos v Charter Twp of Lyon – Bill Fahey and Chris Patterson are in the process of preparing the amicus brief in this case.

Pinewood circle v Romulus – MML has requested support in this MTT appeal. GLS has been asked to contribute a portion of the cost, based on the total number of groups supporting the amicus. Ryan Shannon at Dickinson will be writing the brief.

Motion to contribute to the cost of the amicus brief in the matter of *Pinewood Circle v Romulus*: Williams **Second:** Forsyth

Ayes: Bluhm, Brown, Chubb, Fisher, Forbush, Forsyth, Joppich, Kolb, Mithani, Nettleton, Pastula, Sluggett, So, Steele, Thomas, Watza, Williams

Nays: None

Abstain: Mills, McGee, So

Absent: King, Mills, Tamm

6. BRIEFLY

Member Mithani stated that an issue had gone out in January. The committee is contemplating a May issue to promote the summer conference. Going forward, the plan is to put out three issues each year. A planned September issue would include a follow up on the summer conference.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. Winter Conference

Chair Forbush gave a summary of the event. Member Joppich requested that a list of attendees be made available ahead of the event in the future. Members agreed this would be a good idea.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. 2024 Summer Conference

Vice-Chair Forsyth shared the most up to date version of the agenda for the conference. The prevailing theme is shaping up to be “Law Enforcement Liability.” Vice-Chair Forsyth shared they are looking for sponsors for the Friday reception. He indicated they also are in need of a speaker on qualified immunity. The planning committee is contemplating a fun activity for Sunday (e.g. morning run or bike, or something similar).

Looking ahead to 2025, the MML is evaluating proposals for some venues. Vice-Chair Forsyth shared that Inn at Bay Harbor is booked; other options being looked at include Crystal Mountain, Boyne Highlands, Grand Traverse Resort, among others. The current favorite is Grand Traverse Resort.

b. Zoning, Land Use and Local Control Committee

There were no updates from the committee.

c. Winter Conference 2025 – early planning

Chair Forbush indicated the hope is to return to Canton, and again hire Zingerman's to do the catering. Member Pastula offered to assist in the planning of the event.

d. Potential Vacancy

Chair Forbush shared that Member Tamm would be stepping down. Member Tamm has recommended Richard Stokken to take his place. Member Fisher mentioned Chris Patterson as another potential member. Member Chubb suggested Bill Kim from the City of Flint. Member Mithani indicated support for Bill Kim and also suggested Kevin McQuillen. Chair Forbush requested CVs for all those interested.

e. Joint Annual Program Invitation

Chair Forbush shared an invitation to the joint annual program. There was not broad interest from the Council.

9. COUNCIL COMMENTS

There were no Council comments.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Forbush declared the meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Minutes taken by Kolb