

Minutes from January 4, 2019 Workers' Compensation Section Meeting

The meeting was called by Chair Dennis Flynn. The attendees were:

Sam Larrabee, Dan Zolkowski, Dennis Flynn, Rick Lovernick, Jayson Chizick, Dan Hebert, Lisa Klaeren, Chris Westgate, Mark Long, Phil Frame, John Combs, Andrea Hamm and Dan DeGraw.

Not present: Jeff Kirschner and Rosa Bava

Secretary's Report

At the request of Rosa Bava who was dealing with a family emergency the secretary's report was accepted as presented. Dan Zolkowski moved to have them admitted and seconded by Andrea Hamm.

Motion passed with all ayes; no nays. Minutes entered

Treasurer's Report

Presented by Treasurer Jayson Chizick and reflects that the Crowne Plaza Hotel which was the host site for the winter section meeting has been paid. Finances appear to be in good order as of November 30, 2018. Treasurer reports holdings in excess of \$69,000.00. That does not reflect any expenses incurred after November 30, 2018.

Motion to accept treasurer's report passed with all ayes and no nays.

Director Report

Director Long indicates that the calculation program for 2019 is up and running. Maximum compensation rate has been established of \$921.00. Mileage has increased to \$58.05. No other items of substance have been addressed at this point.

Chief Magistrate Klaeren

Magistrate Klaeren indicated that due to the change in leadership at the state level the Board of Magistrates essentially has been placed on hold. There is no word at this point in time relative to word from the Governor's office as far as new appointees are concerned. Affirmative steps have been taken to ensure that all dockets will be covered in an efficient manner through the transition period.

MCAC Update

David McGraw reports that the Appellate Commission is moving forward with increased efficiency with decisions being issued in a more timely fashion.

Legislative Update

Jayson Chizick has questioned Director Long as well as Chief Magistrate Klaeren relative to any update in the proposed rule changes. Both Director Long and Chief Magistrate Klaeren indicate that there has been no definitive word on the adoption of any new rules and have indicated that they are not in a position to speculate on the timing of the presentation to the general section for adoption of same.

Newsletter

Discussion was held and not specifically relative to the workers' compensation section newsletter that their request to the State Bar of Michigan for presentation in 2019 or 2020 for 2,500 word articles. Dennis Flynn has indicated an email blast was sent out to the section members soliciting ideas for topics. Anyone with interest in working on the articles will be directed to Andrea Hamm.

Summer Meeting

Discussion was held relative to extending an invitation to those practitioners who have been licensed for 50 years or more. Discussion centered on providing lodging for identified members which number at this point 32. Rick Lovernick/ Dan Zolkowski/Dennis Flynn will be contacting the Hotel Indigo to determine the availability of additional rooms before any invitations are extended. Jayson Chizick has contacted the State Bar who apparently has given the green light as far as this not being a taxable event to the potential invitees.

The current contract requires a down payment of \$1,500.00 before February 1, 2019. Under motion by Andrea Hamm, seconded by Rick Lovernick authorization to pay the down payment was passed without dissent.

Past Chair Persons Outing

Chris Westgate has guaranteed a Detroit Tigers win for either May 16, 2019 or May 23, 2019. Details to follow

New Business

Jayson Chizick has moved to extend the Uber conference contract for one year. Motion was seconded by Chris Westgate. Said motion passed without dissent.

Upon a motion by Dan Hebert, seconded by Phil Frame meeting was adjourned.