

MINUTES

Meeting: State Bar of Michigan – Health Care Law Section Council
Date: October 11, 2011
Chair: Marta Hoffman

Members Present:

John Anderson (Secretary)	P	Josh Moore	P
Steve Bender (Vice Chair)	P	Laura Napiewocki	P
Jennifer Benedict	P	Monica Navarro	P
Richard Bouma	P	Donna O'Connor	P
Patrick Haddad	P	Abby Pendleton	P
John Hazewinkel	P	Trish Schabath	P
Marta Hoffman (Chair)	P	Monica Wilkinson	E
Mark Kopson	P	Deborah Williamson	P
Thomas McGraw (Treasurer)	P		

<u>Agenda Item</u>	<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Action/Follow-Up</u>
Call to Order (Marta Hoffman)	Ms. Hoffman called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m.	
Roll Call (Adrienne Nutter)	See above for members present.	
Conflict of Disclosure (Marta Hoffman)	None reported. Discussion ensued regarding what constitutes a conflict.	
Review and Approval of Minutes (John Anderson)	Two sets of minutes are presented for review and approval. September 6 th minutes are approved without corrections. September 21 st minutes are approved without corrections.	Mr. Anderson will send these minutes to Ms. Benedict to file them with the State Bar.
Treasurer's Report (Tom McGraw)	<p>Mr. McGraw references the balance sheet and general ledger that were sent out by Adrienne. Fiscal year runs from Oct. 1, 2010 – Sept. 30, 2011, and these documents relate to that fiscal year. The financial reporting always lags behind the meetings, so as of August 31, the balance was approximately \$76,000. Since then, we have had about \$10,000 in expenses for the annual meeting. Our balance is estimated to be approximately \$68,000-\$69,000.</p> <p>These two financial documents will be sent out with the agenda/minutes prior to each meeting.</p> <p>Members incurring expenses on behalf of the Section need to contact Mr. McGraw to be reimbursed. The State Bar has forms that need to be filled out for reimbursement however Mr. McGraw will complete the forms if receipts are sent to him.</p> <p>Mr. McGraw will be participating in a State Bar conference call regarding duties of section treasurers..</p>	
Substantive Law Committee (Laura Napiewocki)	The first teleconference of the year (Mental Health Parity) is scheduled for Tuesday the 18 th . October 25, 2011 marks the first committee call of the year – thereafter, committee meeting calls will take place on the 4 th Tuesday of each month at noon. Ms. Napiewocki will be asking the	

	subcommittee members to start planning for the year. She will mention what we've spoken about with regards to the Individual Mandate and Healthcare Reform as teleconference topics. Discussion ensued about putting out a call for speakers and for topics to our fellows and to the general membership via our list serve.	
Publications Committee (Donna O'Connor, Monica Navarro)	Ms. Navarro has reached out to Ms. O'Connor about choosing topics for this year. It was noted that in the past, projects are chosen and the work generally continues through from one year to the next due to the labor intensive amount of work needed. The committee will be having their first conference call soon and will report back to the council.	Council members are encouraged to submit suggestions to the committee.
New Lawyers and Law Students Committee (John Anderson)	Mr. Anderson and Ms. Hoffman have identified some new members for the committee given the loss of last year's members due to term limits. The committee is starting to gear up for law school visits, 'meet and greets' for new lawyers, and the Law School Writing Competition. For the moment, they will establish the committee itself and a first meeting and report back to the Council by the next meeting with respect to what they see the year shaping up to look like. Ms. Hoffman requested that the names of the two winners and their papers be posted to the website.	Ms. Benedict will assist with posting the Writing Competition winners and papers to the website. Ms. Hoffman will send copies of the winning papers to Mr. Anderson.
Legislative Committee (Mark Kopson, Deborah Williamson)	Nothing to report. Steve Bender will join this committee.	
Technology Committee (Jen Benedict, Rich Bouma)	Nothing to report.	
Pro Bono Committee (Laura Napiewocki)	Nightingale Task Force and Counselors for the Cure updates are deferred until the next meeting. Committee needs to be reconfigured.	.
HITECH Act (Marta Hoffman)	Nothing to report, updates are deferred until the next meeting. Committee needs to be reconfigured.	
Fellows Committee (Deb Williamson)	Ms. Hoffman briefed the Council on the Fellows Committee. Committee needs to be reconfigured. Marta submitted an article to be included in the November "Section Briefs" of the State Bar Journal recognizing the newly inducted Fellows.	
New Business (Marta Hoffman)	<p>Section Calendar, Meeting Dates and Times Keep these on the first Tuesday of each month at 4:30 pm.</p> <p>Section Chair Meeting w/ State Bar (Steve Bender) Mr. Bender attended a well-organized program on September 22nd. The program was an opportunity to meet with the President of the State Bar, and went through all of the support that the State Bar affords the sections. He met with the communications department, and came out of it wanting to secure a Facebook page for the section. He will reach out to the media specialist there to get that set up. This could be something that the Tech committee could pursue this year, and can get</p>	

	<p>on the agenda for a future meeting. A roadblock would be that many firms block access to Facebook, but there is a movement to lift such bans as alternative uses for Facebook develop.</p> <p>The Orientation Program also discussed bylaws, governance and finance. Support personnel in these areas were introduced and each provided a high level overview of their role and responsibilities. Each Section leader was provided demographic info relative to their respective sections. The Healthcare Law Section is becoming a more popular section with over 6% growth, while most sections are actually shrinking. It was reported that Members of the Health Care Law Section most frequently belong to the Business Law Section, the Young Lawyers Section, the Labor Practice Section, or the Probate and Estate Planning Section. The State Bar suggested that we consider partnering with some of these other sections when presenting educational programs. Ms. Hoffman mentioned that she attended the Leadership Forum on Mackinac last summer.</p> <p>Individual Mandate/HC Reform (Steve Bender) Mr. Bender referenced Attorney General Schuette's speech about Healthcare Reform and queried the Council's interest in establishing a Healthcare Law Section official position on the subject which may be contrary to that of the AG.</p> <p>Discussion ensued about need to investigate and further define the issue which is complicated, and about polling membership before the council decides if it should take a position. The Section has not been able to take position on very many issues in the past due to the diversity and conflicting interests of its membership. Mr. Bender will speak with Elizabeth Lyon in reference to this protocol, and then bring that information back next month, and if this was 'green-lighted', think through how we would poll our membership. Additional discussion ensued about offering webinars to educate the membership about the issues rather than taking a stance since one of the major goals of the Section is to provide education on various health care related topics.</p> <p>Annual Meeting Feedback Ms. Hoffman would like to convene a call with last year's annual meeting committee to discuss and evaluate the meeting.</p>	
Adjournment/Next Meeting (Marta Hoffman)	<p>The meeting adjourned at 5:33 pm.</p> <p>Next Meeting: November 1, 2011 @ 4:30</p>	

Minutes recorded by Adrienne Nutter