

**COUNCIL OF TAXATION SECTION  
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING**

**June 22, 2017**

A regular meeting of the Council of the State Bar of Michigan Taxation Section was held on June 22, 2017, at 9 a.m. at the offices of Seyburn Kahn, P.C. 2000 Town Center, Suite 1500, Southfield, Michigan. Alexander Domenicucci, Chairperson of the Taxation Section, presided.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT**

Alexander Domenicucci	Jackie Cook	Mindi Johnson
James Combs	Andrea Crumback	Michael Monaghan
Andrew MacLeod	Josh Wease	William Lentine

**COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT**

Michael Antovski	Sean Cook	Carolee Kvoriak Smith
Katie Wilbur	Paul McCord	

**COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS PRESENT**

Ryan Peruski	Brian Gallagher	Dan Stanley
Tom Fabbri		

**COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS ABSENT**

Jon Baloch	Marcy Rosen	
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**OTHERS PRESENT**

John Swift	Shenique Moss	Jeff Kirkey
Mary Owiesny	Max Matthies	

The Chair called the meeting to order at approximately 9:06 a.m. A quorum attended in person and via phone.

**MINUTES OF PRIOR COUNCIL MEETING**

The Chair asked for comments on the previous meeting's Minutes and minor corrections were noted. Upon motion by Jackie Cook seconded by Andrew MacLeod, the aforementioned Minutes were unanimously approved and adopted.

## **APPROVAL OF DONATION IN HONOR OF JANO BARNEY.**

The Chair asked for ratification of the approval of a \$200 contribution in honor of Jano Barney to the American Cancer Society. Upon motion by Jackie Cook, seconded by James Combs, the aforementioned resolution was unanimously ratified, approved and adopted.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Jackie Cook was present and provided a report. Jackie reviewed the financial statements for the current year and noted that dues are slightly down and the committees are making good use of their respective budgets. Jackie is waiting on the expenses from the Annual Tax Conference.

## **COUNCIL ACTIVITIES**

### **1. Strategic Planning – James Combs/Katie Wilbur**

James Combs was present and provided a report, principally focusing on the Fundamentals of Taxation Program.

James reviewed the status of the Fundamentals of Taxation program to be held in October and planning activities regarding the program. At present, James is primarily focused on identifying presenters for the program.

### **2. Social Media / Communications – Katie Wilbur**

Katie Wilbur was not present and did not provide a report. Andrew MacLeod noted the need to update SBM Connect website administrators for the Taxation Section page, and agreed to follow-up with Sandra Barger of SBM so that the web administrators for the Taxation Section's web page can be changed to the current Chair, Alexander Domenicucci, and Program Facilitator, Mary Owiesny.

### **3. Michigan Tax Lawyer – Andrew MacLeod/Katie Wilbur**

Andrew MacLeod was present and provided a report. Andrew noted that the current issue of the Michigan Tax Lawyer is nearly complete and just needed a few minor items that he is waiting on from contributors.

### **4. Michigan Bar Journal Liaison / Tax Court Lunch – Sean Cook**

Sean Cook was not present and did not provide a report.

### **5. Annual Tax Conference – William Lentine (2017); Andrea Crumback (2018)**

Bill Lentine was present and provided a report on the 2017 Annual Tax Conference. Bill noted that the conference appeared to be a success and to have run smoothly. Bill noted that conference attendee reviews were generally favorable, but noted one issue

relative to the presentation of a particular unnamed speaker. Jeff Kirkey of ICLE generally concurred with Bill Lentine's comments and noted very favorable reviews regarding the new strolling lunch format.

Andrea Crumback was present and provided a report on the 2018 Annual Tax Conference. Andrea concurred with Bill Lentine's review of the 2017 Annual Tax Conference and noted that the date for next year's conference will be May 24, 2018, and the location will again be The St. John's Inn. In relation to planning for next year's conference, Andrea will be using the results of a survey conducted with respect to the current year's conference attendees.

6. Federal & State Legislative Update and Public Policy Liaison – Michael Monaghan

Michael Monaghan was present and provided a report. Mike noted that the new partnership audit regulations have been issued and a related hearing will be held in September. Mike also noted that otherwise there is not a lot of new information to report.

7. Annual Meeting – Paul McCord

Paul McCord was not present and did not provide a report. However, the Chair noted that he had recently been in contact with Paul and that Paul is working on planning for the annual Tax Section meeting.

8. ICLE – John Swift

John Swift was present and provided a report. John introduced Max Matthies of ICLE, who will be taking over for John in relation to the ICLE Tax Law Series. John also noted the need to obtain speakers for the Tax Law Series, and optimally the speakers should be selected by July 31<sup>st</sup> for purposes of facilitating ICLE's marketing of the Tax Law Series.

9. Grant Program – Mindi Johnson

Mindi Johnson was present and provided a brief report on the grant program. Mindi noted that the approved grants are in the process of being issued to the recipients and should be completed in the near future.

10. Pro Bono Project/Community Service Initiative Coordinator – Josh Wease

Josh Wease was present and provided a report. Josh noted an upcoming webinar training program that will run about 1.5 hours on various topics that frequently arise in connection with the low income taxpayers clinic and MSU's low income tax clinic.

11. IRS Area Counsel Liaison Report – Eric Skinner / Rob Heitmeyer

Eric Skinner and Rob Heitmeyer were not present and did not provide a written report.

12. Probate and Estate Planning Section Liaison Report – George Gregory

George Gregory was not present, but submitted a written report.

13. State Bar of Michigan Liaison Report – Shenique Moss

Shenique Moss was present and provided a brief report.

14. YLS Liaison Report – Shenique Moss

Shenique Moss was present and provided a report on various Young Lawyers Section matters and activities, including on various upcoming Young Lawyers Section events: on June 24<sup>th</sup>, there will be an event in Marquette on the History of Legal Practice in Northern Michigan, and in Novi on July 22<sup>nd</sup> there will be an event on Practice Essentials for New Lawyers.

15. Program Facilitator Report – Mary Owiesny

The Chair introduced Mary Owiesny as the Tax Section's new Program Facilitator. Mary noted that she looked forward to working with everyone in her new position, and encouraged everyone to reach out to her if they need anything.

**COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES**

1. Employee Benefits – Brian Gallagher

Brian Gallagher was present and provided a brief report, as well as a written report. Brian noted his planning activities in relation to upcoming events, and that he has a program set for November and is also considering an August event.

2. Estates and Trusts – Thomas Fabbri

Thomas Fabbri was present and provided a brief report, as well as a written report. Tom noted that he was considering a July event at Jimmy John's Park in Utica and other events for the upcoming year.

3. Federal Income Tax – Jon Baloch

Jon Baloch was not present, but provided a written report.

4. Practice and Procedure – Marcy Rosen

Marcy Rosen was not present, and did not provide a report.

5. State and Local Taxation – Dan Stanley

Dan Stanley was present and provided a report. Dan noted an upcoming mixer for the State and Local Tax Committee to be held on September 13 at Honigman's Lansing office.

6. Young Tax Lawyers – Ryan Peruski

Ryan Peruski was present and provided a report. Ryan noted that the Young Tax Lawyers committee held an event in Lansing the prior week at the Lansing Brewing Company. This event was attended by approximately 20 people. Ryan also noted that he is planning an event in Detroit that is anticipated to be held sometime over the summer.

**NEW BUSINESS.**

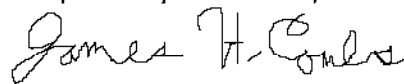
- Alex Domenicucci updated and reviewed the calendar of various upcoming Tax Section / Committee Events, as attached to the agenda for the meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- Fundamentals of Taxation Program. See above discussion from James Combs under the "Strategic Planning" header.
- HB 4412. Jackie Cook noted that HB 4412 has been approved by the State House, and was pending before the State Senate. Dan Stanley noted that he testified before a House panel in support of the Bill.
- Committee Pages on SBM Connect. Andrew MacLeod noted that, except for the Young Tax Lawyers Committee, the SBM Connect Committee Pages have been established on SBM Connect and are available for use, and also noted that he had provided instructions to each of the Committee Chairs on using the Committee Pages.
- Update of Policy and Procedures Manual. The Chair mentioned that Carolee Kvorciak Smith is working on updating the Policy and Procedures Manual, and is in the process of setting up a planning meeting for the project.

There being no additional business, a motion to adjourn was made by Jackie Cook, seconded by Andrew MacLeod. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:23 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



James H. Combs  
Secretary