Administrative Law Section Council Meeting

Kellogg Center, East Lansing December 12, 2008

In attendance

Kristin Smith
Lou Porter
Gary Gordon
David Jones
Mark Burzych
Kim Breitmeyer
Steve Gobbo
Mike Watza
Josh Ard

Mark Burzych, chair, presiding

The approval of the minutes was deferred, since they were unable prior to the meeting. The treasurer's report was approved. Treasurer Josh Ard noted that some of the funds set aside to reimburse speakers at the annual meeting have not been disbursed because no expense vouchers were submitted. Mark Burzych will contact the speakers to encourage them to submit the vouchers or disclaim the payments.

Program Committee

Today's meeting is a success—64 people signed up to attend.

The next program's focus will be the tax tribunal. Chief Judge Priscilla Halm has agreed to participate. The meeting is tentatively set for February 27th at the Kellogg Center. Advertising will begin soon, via post card, the Bar Journal, and email. We will investigate to see if the Bar will be able to provide on-line payment processing. The cost will be \$20 for section members, including lunch. The public corporations section will participate in advertising the program. There has also been considerable interest from municipalities and assessor organizations. The agenda and content are still in the planning stages.

A program focusing on the Public Service Commission is planned for April or May. Chief Judge Whitbeck has agreed to speak at the next annual meeting. Steve Gobbo suggested that the incoming chair plan another program early in the next fiscal year. The Department of Environmental Quality was suggested as a good topic.

A rough outline of the section program for the Law School for Legislators has been developed. The emphasis will be on giving the new legislators a fundamental understanding of administrative law.

Newsletter Committee

A new issue should be coming out soon. It will contain an article by Bob Nelson on energy issues, one by Bob Sedler of Wayne State on administrative issues in the Kilpatrick hearings, and by Mark Burzych on survey results about administrative hearings.

Membership Committee

Section membership is currently 452. The committee is charged with developing a recommendation to increase membership.

Legislative Committee

Not much activity is expected out of the lame duck session of the legislature. One interesting piece of legislation that might move is HB 6601, dealing with professional employer organization. Steve Gobbo expressed strong dissatisfaction with the bill.

Pontiac Food Center

Lou Porter gave an overview of the court of appeals holding in the Pontiac Food Center case. Don LeDuc disagrees with the holding, but feels that publishing an article is not warranted unless it is published. The Attorney General's office has requested publication, but not decision on that had been made by meeting time.

Submitted by Josh Ard in lieu of the secretary.