

AMERICAN INDIAN LAW SECTION

MINUTES OF SECTION MEETING SEPTEMBER 26, 2002

Meeting called to order approximately 1:30 pm.

Present: Melissa Pope, John Lemire, Tom Myers, Larry Betz, Kathy Sciotta, Tom Silvia, Angela Sherigan, Sheila Gaskell, Art Stine, Jon Siebers, Ron Douglas, Donna Budnick

Approval of Agenda

Approval of minutes of March 18, 2002

Changes – addition of attendees; correction in spelling Move Douglas/second Siebers
Passed.

REPORTS:

Chairperson Report – Most of report in newsletter as well as website where copies of reports and minutes are available. Discussion of Section dissemination of ICWA and VAWA materials.

Discussion of ICWA video tape and summary information.

Newsletter – Melissa Pope – Discussion of publication of newsletter as well as possibility of electronic publication of same in the future.

Leader Retreat of the State Bar – May 2002 meeting with current chairs of Sections and Committees and State Bar staff. Discussion concerned with relations of Sections with the State bar, and efforts of the bar to relate better with Sections. Follow-up meeting in June 2002 Section Summit, talk of resources of Bar, and legislation efforts with term limits.

By Law Committee Report – revitalized Legislative subcommittee, and amendments to allow meetings of Council by telephone because of geographical location of members, and to expand Law Student participation. State bar supported efforts to changes by laws for telephone conferences. Quorum of seven members by any means as convenient, as applicable to two difference sections of by-laws. Also State Bar suggestion change of meeting that was to coincide with Upper Michigan Bar, which is no longer being held. Moved Budnick/Second Betz to adopt amendments to by-laws – also allowed for addition of law student provisions to be drafted by Melissa. (Council may appoint law students as non-voting membership.)

Discussion as to amendment procedure of by-laws – present action is resolution for amendments with future publications for formal adoption.

Current Activities – Council discussed getting involved in other programs, such as participation with Department of Civil Rights programs for teaching traditional and cultural activities. Possibility of luncheon with above participants. This would supplement or replace program at annual meeting. Educational subcommittee would study.

Review of various subcommittee members.

Budget report – John Lemire reported on balance sheet. Also need to take into account monies billed but not yet paid.

Budget Report and Expenditures - \$500 for Access to Justice campaign.

Moved to contribute Silvia/second Tanner Motion carried.

Participation at the Federal Bar Association conference by John Lemire. Expenditure \$350 Moved Tanner/second Duncan motion carried.

Law student luncheon – request for \$1,000. Moved Siebers/second Stevens Motion carried.

Election of Section officers – ballots presented. Discussion of law student representation on Council. Jon Siebers nominated – remove Donna Budnick Motion to accept and elect nominees as proposed and modified Douglas/second Duncan Motion carried.

New activities – Senate bill 1400 – to legislative subcommittee.

Tom Silvia presented discussion of potential participation in Canadian-American environmental and NAFTA issues.

Passing of Gavel

Meeting adjourned approximately 2:15 pm.

(Contents of meeting September 26, 2002 available on tape.)

Minutes approved January 27, 2003