

**Appellate Practice Section Council  
June 18, 2008  
Brighton, Michigan–Ciao Amici**

MEETING MINUTES

Present:

Excused Absences:

Paul Bernard Jill Wheaton  
Barbara Goldman  
Liisa Speaker

Frank Bernacki Guests:

Graham Crabtree  
Tim Diemer Vic Valenti  
Christina Ginter Deb Hebert  
Ron Lederman  
Gerry Posner  
Stephen Rhodes  
Mike Updike  
Peter Van Hoek

Welcome and Call to Order

A.

Paul Bernard called the meeting to order at 4:45 p.m.

I.

Approval of Minutes

A.

April 2008 and May 16, 2008 (previously circulated). After modest revisions to the May 2008 meeting minutes, Gerry Posner moved and Graham Crabtree seconded we accept the April and May 2008 minutes (carried unanimously).

II.

Treasurer's Report.

A.

No report.

III.

Committee Reports

A.

Court Liaison/Rules Comment.

1.

Vic Valenti reported that he tried to contact the Children's Law Section about MCR 3.901 and 3.930. He is working on a proposal.

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B.

Michigan Court Practice.

1.

No report.

C.

Publications.

1.

Newsletter. The next submission deadline is July 14, 2008 (for the August issue). The committee is working on developing a publication schedule for the next two years, which includes all the feature articles. The committee circulated a sign up sheet for feature article slots. Council discussed article ideas, including the ballot initiative's affect on appellate process. The deadline for submission for the November issue is October 14, 2008.

D.

Technology.

1.

Listserv. Barb Goldman reported that the Section has nearly returned to its prior numbers since the recreation of the listserv. She also noted that more judges and court staff have signed up for the listserv. She plans to circulate a listserv policy proposal for discussion at the annual meeting.

E.

Federal Practice

1.

No report.

F.

Legislative Action.

1.

Graham Crabtree reported that the judiciary budget passed out of the Senate and the House.

G.

Good Deeds

1.

Ron Lederman proposed that Council donate a portion of the Section's surplus to some organization. Paul Bernard reported that Council had donated over \$5,000 this year on behalf of the Section.

H.

Economics of Appellate Practice

1.

Mike Updike reported that the Economics of Appellate Practice meeting would be delayed.

I.

2008 Annual Meeting.

1.

Barb Goldman reported that Justice Kelly, Judge Saad, Judge Murray, Judge Gleicher, John Jacobs, and Mark Bendure would serve as panelists at the annual

meeting.

#### IV.

##### Old Business

###### A.

Governmental Immunity Rules Amendments. Paul Bernard reported that he submitted Council's comments to the Michigan Supreme Court.

###### B.

Court Reporting Rule Proposals. See above Economics of Appellate Practice.

###### C.

Listserv Policy. See above Technology.

###### V.

##### New Business

###### A.

Government Reform Petition Drive. Council discussed whether it was appropriate for Council and the Section to comment at this time. Council agreed that we would investigate the State Bar's position on the ballot initiative. The consensus among Council members was that we would table the item until such time as necessary (that is, if the initiative survived various legal challenges and would thus appear on the ballot).

###### B.

Nominating Committee. Liisa Speaker reported that we needed to find at least two new attorneys to run for Council (in addition to the current council members who had agreed to run again).

###### C.

Bar Leadership Forum. Barb Goldman reported that she attended the forum on behalf of the Section.

#### VI.

##### Next Meeting

###### A.

September 18, 2008, 2:00 p.m. (Dearborn Hyatt). No remote access for annual meeting.

#### VII.

##### Adjournment

###### A.

Paul Bernard moved and Barb Goldman seconded to adjourn meeting. Meeting adjourned by unanimous vote at 7:30 p.m.

