

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
ARTS, COMMUNICATIONS, ENTERTAINMENT & SPORTS (ACES) SECTION
MINUTES OF JANUARY 25, 2011 COUNCIL MEETING
HELD AT DETROIT PUBLIC TELEVISION - RILEY BROADCAST CENTER
1 CLOVER COURT, WIXOM, MI**

A meeting of the Arts, Communications, Entertainment & Sports (ACES) Council was held at the Detroit Public Television - Riley Broadcast Center in Wixom, MI after a tour and presentation of those facilities led by its Dan Alpert, on Tuesday January 25, 2011, at 5:30 p.m., pursuant to notice duly given.

The meeting was called to order at 5:36 p.m. by the Chairman, John Kamins. Present at the meeting were the following: Chairman, John Kamins; Chair-Elect, Pamela Osborne; Secretary, Thomas Doty; Treasurer, Todd Redden; and Council members Richard Herman, Len Charla, Duane Lewis, Henry Clay III, Daniel Matson and Jeffrey Richardson.

Present on the conference call speakerphone was Kim Ward.

The Chairman began with introductions of the ACES officers and Council members.

The Agenda was presented by the Chairman and approved by the Council members.

The minutes of the Council meeting of December 8, 2010 had been distributed by email; the reading of the minutes was waived; and the minutes were duly approved by the Council members. It was suggested that future minutes can be reviewed and any proposed modifications emailed to the Secretary prior to approval. Discussion regarding posting minutes to the website was addressed. A critical review prior to posting was discussed as a necessary practice.

The agenda order was modified due to scheduling issues of Council members, and Rick Herman presented a report on ACES involvement in a voluntary lawyers for the arts initiative now called Lawyers for the Creative Economy (LCE). Rick reported that he, Matt and John Willems met with ArtServe Michigan for a second time looking at all the LCE elements, forms and manuals in their continued development. Rick commented that he felt ArtServe Michigan was moving forward with good progress and covering much ground. It was suggested that an ACES steering/advisory committee be established for the LCE undertaking, and it was recommended that some ACES members not on the council should be identified to work on that advisory board.

It was also discussed that out of the over 450 current ACES members, the proposed members should come from a statewide pool and not just from the Detroit metropolitan area.

Matt Bower and Rick Herman are to speak at Interlochen Arts Academy in connection with the LCE initiative in February 2011.

Jeff Richardson expressed accolades on the positive signs of a strong, rebuilt infrastructure as it concerns collaborating with ArtServe Michigan on the LCE initiative.

The Chairman presented to past ACES Chairman Duane Lewis his engraved plaque from the State Bar of Michigan for the 2006 – 2007 year, honoring his dedicated service to ACES.

Strategic Planning was also taken out of agenda order to accommodate the professional schedule of Chair-Elect Pam Osborne. She reported on the recent past meetings of the Strategic Planning Committee, developed to add continuity and direction for current and future ACES Councils. The committee will be comprised of the 4 current officers and 3 past chairpersons. The committee is focusing on four specific areas including: (1) the diverse professional membership and education of the ACES members; (2) improving and promoting public awareness of arts, communications, entertainment and sports issues with a formal "State of the Section" meeting, "Cracker Barrel" meetings, community events and continuing professional education events (ICLE); (3) providing a "roadmap" or structured approach for current and future councils and; (4) a quality experience achieved through recurring and scheduled events and meetings for all members. February 16, 2011 will be the next meeting date of the committee. Rick Herman recommended that the Council and committee should review methods to quantify the success of the section for planning and continuity purposes.

Duane Lewis presented the Public Action / Civic Affairs Committee report and discussed the Southwest Solution, of which Duane is vice-chair, which focuses on development in a 20-block area of southwest Detroit (in the I-75 and Vernon area). Duane sought authorization from the Council to pursue the direct involvement of ACES through his committee. Discussion continued regarding ACES involvement with the Cultural Center. Also discussed was the art group 100 Points of Light and the positive presentation of ACES within these groups. Consensus

was obtained and approval to continue his involvement as a member and representative of ACES was given by the Council through the Chairman's approval.

Jeffrey Richardson discussed the Michigan Senate's revival of the rights of publicity legislation in which the section previously was formally involved, and also the continuing investigation of another champion of the legislation in the State House and the ACES involvement with the legislature and lobbying organizations. This investigation may take a few more months due to the new governor and legislature.

Returning to the agenda order, Treasurer Todd Redden presented the ACES financial report. In the current month ACES took in \$520.00 in dues, had \$298.00 of expenditures, for a net increase of \$222.00 for the treasury. Year to date for the period of October – December 2010, he reported \$5,700 in ACES dues, \$32 in student dues and \$655 in seminar revenues for a total of \$6,387 total revenues, offset by \$1,112 in expenses, for a current balance of \$14,310.67. It was added by the immediate past ACES Treasurer, Thomas Doty, that the annual meeting was moved forward into the current year due to the meeting being held in October. It was discussed that the "list" of 450 ACES members should be reviewed for continuing membership and it was requested of the Treasurer to compare the current membership list against dues revenue. Henry Clay discussed that objectives for a strategic plan should include the inclusion of an actual budget to provide a benchmark of moneys expended against results, and that the Treasurer' review of the coffers should include projected expenditures, including the need for future reserves required due to unforeseen circumstances, followed by Council review of expenditures and any surplus after projected budget needs. The annual Hensel Award alone costs over \$3,000.00 a year, which will be removed from the account next month, since the check was just received from the State Bar for the costs incurred last year. The annual meeting costs were also discussed. Henry Clay expressed the importance of fiscal conservation and that the Council was the "steward" of the section's funds. The Chairman expressed that the projections of expenditures must be reviewed, that a surplus must be reviewed against the mission and purposes of the section, and the possible need to increase events and education of the section members. The cost of our meetings has been underwritten by our hosts. The Chairman

discussed the modest meetings and costs as compared to other sections and the fiscal component of our section. Thomas Doty observed that the monthly meeting costs of other organizations can be quite high and that the ACES section has been fiscally conservative. Len Charla suggested that we review our mission to our goals and strategy, including a bigger membership or possibly higher dues, balanced against the funding of other groups or outside events. Henry Clay finally added that a projected \$3,000 surplus was minimal for the goals of the section and should be part of the strategic plan.

The matter of a future ACES theme issue of the Michigan Bar Journal was presented by committee chair Len Charla. The State Bar has consented and the issue is slated for publication in 2012. There has been a posted and emailed request for submissions through a call for authors. Len mentioned some potential article topics and he commented on the great exposure of publishing an article in a bar journal.

The Chairman reported for Larry Jordan on ICLE seminar developments. He stated that Rick Herman, John Kamins and some other speaker will present papers and speak at the ICLE/ACES seminar on evolving issues in social networking, with a total of 3 hours of presentation on three topics.

Henry Clay III reported that a "dummy" newsletter was developed and would be sent out within the week. The Chairman commented that the newsletter would be a good addition for ACES members such as the law students, but it should be a joint effort of all members to contribute and utilize the website as an aggregating point for information. Suggestions should be directed to Henry to give us one more way to become a standout within the Bar and increase interest to the legal community. A February publication was discussed.

Kim Ward presented the Young Lawyers Development / Mentoring Committee report.. She reported that on January 25 she had contact with Wayne State Law School assistant dean and career counselor Crystal Gartner. Kim has added her name as the ACES contact within that institution. Kim has also started communications with Carol Williams as a co-chair of this committee. Kim presented a list of student representatives for ACES at their law schools. These include:

U of M Law School– Arthur Chan; Wayne State U Law School – Anna Heini & Matt Ferrara
Cooley Law Lansing – Shawn McElrich UD Mercy – Still to be confirmed
Kim is going to follow up with Council members who have some other students who are interested in participating with ACES. It was discussed that the name “Young Lawyer Development” may be inappropriate since the student members are not lawyers and the name would be more appropriate as Law Student Development. It was noted that Young Lawyers is a name usually reserved for new lawyers admitted to the bar with less than 5 years of practice. A discussion ensued on the need to develop the students for active participation within the section to help ensure the strong leadership and continuation of the section in the future. Kim presented how these law students who graduate this year should be actively brought into ACES and develop relationships with the other students. Kim requested clarification of: cost reimbursements for student representatives (student meetings for ACES on campus); the ability of students to attend ACES meetings; determining the best time and date for law students to attend active ACES meetings; and the ability of students to be appointed to ACES committees under the bylaws (issues of their non-attorney status with the Bar). The Chairman said this will be researched and answers will be determined. Len Charla discussed the movement of Ava Maria Law School to Florida and Cooley Law School opening an Ann Arbor Campus.

New Business – Future ACES Council meeting dates were presented, with March 2, 2011 at 5:30 p.m. approved for the next meeting of ACES. Dan Matson expressed his concerns about a possible ACES dues increase.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was adjourned by the Chair at 6:50 p.m.

Thomas N. Doty
Secretary

Dated 03/01/2011
