

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN**  
**BUSINESS LAW SECTION**  
**ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**

**September 26, 2006**

The Annual Meeting of the Business Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan was held at the Hotel Baronette in Novi, Michigan on September 26, 2006 at 5:10 p.m., pursuant to notice duly given.

1. Call to Order and Determination of Quorum. Section Chairperson, Eric I. Lark, called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m. and determined with the other officers present that a quorum existed.
2. Approval of Minutes of September 15, 2005 Annual Meeting. Mr. Lark called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on September 15, 2005. Pursuant to motion duly made and seconded, the Minutes were approved.
3. Treasurer's Report. Diane L. Akers indicated that a written report of the Treasurer had been prepared. Mr. Lark called for a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Pursuant to motion duly made and seconded, the Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved.
4. Chairperson's Report. Mr. Lark reported that the year has been successful.
  - a. Educational Initiatives.
    - i. Business Law Institute. Mr. Lark stated that the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Law Institute was held in June at the Soaring Eagle Casino & Resort in Mt. Pleasant. The program was a great success, the Section had strong sponsorship, and there was a great turnout at the event. Next year's event will be held on June 1 and 2, 2007 at Boyne Mountain. The Section has spent much time analyzing this event and trying to increase participation. The Section has decided to move the event to different locations in the State in an effort to attract more attorneys.
    - ii. Business Boot Camp. Business Boot Camp continues to be a great success. The series won the ACLEA's prestigious Outstanding Achievement Award for seminars in 2005. This year's program consists of 9 sessions that run from September 2006 through May 2007. The sessions are held in both Plymouth and Grand Rapids and interested parties can still sign up and attend. Mr. Lark thanked Daniel H. Minkus, Timothy R. Damschroder, Jeffrey S. Ammon, and Sheldon Stark for their efforts in connection with Business Boot Camp.
    - iii. Seminars. On January 26, the Section sponsored a panel discussion in Southfield with the Young Lawyers Section entitled *The Business of*

*Being a Business Lawyer.* This event was a success and attracted over 80 lawyers. On May 10, the Section presented *Compelled Waiver of Attorney-Client Privilege for Businesses* at Laurel Manor in Livonia. This event was also a great success. The Debtor-Creditor Rights Committee is very active and put on several seminars this year. The Committee will co-sponsor another seminar in October. The Section co-sponsors seminars throughout the year with ICLE.

b. Small Business Forum. Cynthia L. Umphrey is the Chair of the newly created Small Business Forum. The Forum's purpose is to reach out to small and mid-sized firms and the business community. The Forum held its kickoff event in June at the Community House in Birmingham. Another event entitled *Raising Capital for Small Business* was held in September in Birmingham.

c. Website. The Section has a strong website which contains pertinent information with respect to Section activities.

d. Business Law Journal. The *Business Law Journal* is a success and is a top-notch publication. Mr. Lark thanked Robert T. Wilson for all of his hard work on the *Journal*.

e. Outreach. The Section is reaching out to members in many ways, including through the Small Business Forum and through events that are being planned throughout the State by the Section Development Directors.

f. Law School Liaison. The Section has appointed Edwin J. Lukas as its Law School Liaison. Mr. Lukas is visiting law schools and talking to students to raise awareness and involvement.

g. Scholarship Award. The Third Annual Scholarship Award was won by Uwe Dauss of the Wayne State University Law School for his excellent article entitled *Stay or Proceed: What Effect Does an Arbitrability Appeal Have on the Proceedings in the Lower Court?* The Fourth Annual Scholarship Award contest is underway and the Section is looking for ways to increase participation.

h. Listserv. The Section has a listserv which it uses to get messages to members.

i. Three Initiatives. Mr. Lark spoke about his three initiatives which he laid out for his year as Chair.

i. Section Development and Outreach. The Section has gone a long way toward achieving this goal and will work to continue to increase participation.

ii. Adhere to Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan was updated in June of 2005. Mr. Lark stated that the Council went through every goal in the Strategic Plan at the December, 2005 council meeting in an effort to keep the focus on the

Plan. Mr. Lark reported that most of the goals of the Strategic Plan have been met.

iii. Stephen C. Schulman Outstanding Business Lawyer Award. The Section has created the Stephen C. Schulman Outstanding Business Lawyer Award. The Section is very proud of this award and in this inaugural year, the Award's recipients are James C. Bruno, Hugh H. Makens, Cyril Moscow, and Martin C. Oetting.

5. Chairperson's Resignation. Mr. Lark thanked the officers, past Chairs, Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs, Committee members, Section officers, leaders, liaisons, and everyone who does work on behalf of the Section for their efforts. Mr. Lark thanked James Cambridge for getting him involved with the Section. Mr. Lark reported that the Section is stronger than ever and financially sound. The Section will continue to educate its members and to be charitable in the community. Mr. Lark tendered his resignation as Section Chairperson. Mr. Lark introduced Mark R. High, the new Section Chairperson, and presented him with a gavel to begin his term as Section Chairperson.

6. Presentation to Outgoing Chairperson. Mr. High thanked Mr. Lark for his great leadership and work as Section Chairperson. Mr. Lark was presented with a plaque and gift from the Section as tokens of appreciation.

7. Nominations of Council Members. The following persons were presented for nomination as council members by Daniel H. Minkus:

a. Diane L. Akers, Patrick E. Mears, Stephen C. Waterbury, and Judy Calton were nominated to serve a new term to end in 2009.

8. Election of New Council Members. Pursuant to motion duly made and seconded, the nominations of the Council Members, as stated above in Item 7, were unanimously approved.

9. Nomination of Michael Kennedy. Mr. Minkus nominated Michael R. Kennedy to fill the remainder of Mr. Lark's term which expires in 2007. Pursuant to motion duly made and seconded, the nomination of Michael Kennedy was unanimously approved.

10. Other Business and Announcements. None of note.

11. Meeting Adjournment. There being no further business to come before this meeting of the Business Law Section of the State Bar of Michigan, upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 5:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mark R. High, Secretary