

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
COMPUTER LAW SECTION
COUNCIL MEETING**

January 17, 2007
6 p.m.

Jaffe, Raitt, Heuer & Weiss, P.C.
27777 Franklin Rd., Suite 2500
Southfield, Michigan 48034-8214

Council Members Present

Benedettini , Dante
Bieneman, Charles
Bisdorf, Jeremy -- **Treasurer**
Dunn, Melanie C.
Falkowski, Christopher J. -- **Secretary**
Malven, Mark
Paulson, Kimberly A. -- **Chair-Elect**
Polley, Vincent
Syrowik, David R.
Tatum, John L.
Targan, Anthony A.
Tupper , Stephen L. -- **Chair**
Wehr, Mary Ann

Council Members Not Present

Crawford, Donald M.
Jakubowski, Matthew M.
Schwartz, Jerome M.
Schuchman, Frederick E.

Other Section Members Present

Khoury, Michael
Lamping, William
Raphelson, Jeffrey G.
Toth, Gary

1. Call to Order
 - (a) Section Chairperson Mr. Tupper called the meeting to order.
2. Minutes of Previous Meeting
 - (a) Minutes from the previous meeting to be subsequently distributed and approved by the Council via the list-serve.

3. Treasurer's Report

- (a) The Treasurer's Report was distributed at the meeting. The Section had a current balance of \$29,097.82. An Annual Budget to be subsequently distributed and approved via the list-serve.

4. Annual Meeting

- (a) Mr. Malven had nothing to report.

5. Membership

(a) Mr. Tupper identified the Membership Committee as an inactive committee without a chairperson and without any members. Mr. Tupper suggested that the Membership committee should be the vehicle for outreach to Michigan law schools. Mr. Falkowski volunteered to take on the responsibilities of chairing the Membership Committee. Mr. Targan volunteered to advise Mr. Falkowski with respect to the law school initiatives.

(b) Specific responsibility for contacting specific law schools were divided up as follows:

Wayne State University: Mr. Tupper

University of Detroit Mercy: Mr. Raine and Ms. Paulson

Michigan State University: Ms. Wehr

University of Michigan: Mr. Falkowski

Ave Maria: Mr. Falkowski

Cooley: Mr. Tupper

6. Newsletter

- (a) Mr. Jakubowski was not present and no report given.

7. Proprietary Rights

(a) Mr. Syrowik reported that the Proprietary Rights Committee plans to assemble a "top 10" list of websites that every IT lawyer should know about. They plan on soliciting section members for suggestions.

8. Michigan Bar Journal Theme Issue

(a) Mr. Tatum reported that some of the articles for the upcoming issue were late, but that he expected to receive them shortly.

9. Writing Award

(a) Mr. Syrowik reported that Mr. Raine was teaching the class at U. of D. Mercy that traditionally provides the majority of papers submitted in the writing contest.

(b) There was a lengthy debate on the issue of raising the writing award amounts from the current structure of \$500 for 1st place, \$300 for 2nd place, and \$200 for 3rd place. Various alternatives were discussed, including the option of keeping the award amounts the same. Council members discussed whether increasing the award would provide a greater incentive for law students to submit papers. Council members also discussed raising the award

amounts on the basis of trying to compensate students for the amount of time involved in editing and revising the papers to render them worth of publication in the Section newsletter.

Motion: Raise aggregate prize money up to \$1,500, and let the reviewers collectively allocate the specific amounts as merited by the quality of the papers

MOTION CARRIED with two votes against.

10. Contracts

(a) Mr. Tupper identified Contracts Committee as an inactive committee without a chairperson and without any members. No one volunteered to be the chairperson or to otherwise participate in creating a database of template contracts for section members.

11. Interactions with Other Sections

(a) Mr. Tupper raised the question of engaging other Sections to sponsor various events. It was mentioned that Greg Ulrich performed this role in the past.

12. Website/Other Section Resources

(a) Mr. Bisdorf reported that an RFP was being prepared for the purpose of creating a Section website managed by a third party service provider. One of the purposes of the new website would be to make useful content available to the Section members. There was a discussion about whether it would be a good idea to include a Section blog or “blawg” covering information technology legal issues. Mr. Tatum noted that the State Bar was in the process of changing their website service provider.

13. Spring Luncheon

(a) Ms. Paulson reported that the Spring Luncheon committee consisting of Ms. Paulson, Mr. Targan, and Mr. Bisdorf will organize a “happy hour” event at Andiamos/Second City in Novi.

(b) Ms. Dunn volunteered to assist the committee, but it was suggested that she provide assistance to the Annual Meeting committee instead.

14. Other

(a) Mr. Tupper raised the question of what were permissible uses of the list serve. The Council had a discussion as to the merits of using the list serve to communicate desired professional opportunities and openings. The current practice was to allow such communications, and there was no interest in changing that policy, although the issue could be raised in the future if the policy was being abused. Mr. Tupper, Ms. Paulson, and Mr. Raine currently possess moderator authority over the list serve.

(b) Next meeting scheduled for U. of D. Mercy on March 14th.

15. Adjournment

Motion: that the Council adjourn

MOTION CARRIED