

**MINUTES OF THE CRIMINAL LAW SECTION  
STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN  
October 19, 2010**

Present at the meeting: Steve Taratuta, Opolla Brown, Jonathan Sacks, M. Jon Posner, Michael Brady, Barbara Levine, Steve Gobbo, Ken Malkin, Matt Smith, Judge Hoort, Charlie Marr and Kiana Franulic as members of the Council and Bruce Timmons and–Criminal Jurisprudence and Elaine Spiliopoulos.

I. Call to Order:

Meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m.

- a. Absences with Notice: David Gilbert, David Layton, Jerry Surowiec, Mike Marutiak, Graham Teall and Ward McDonough – Motion was made and seconded to excuse these absences.
- b. Absences without Notice: Steve Lockhart

II. Approval of Minutes:

- Motion was made and seconded to Approve the Minutes from the May 18, 2010 Meeting with corrections. The motion carried.
- Motion was made and seconded to Approve the Minutes from the October 1, 2010 Meeting. The Motion Carried.

III. Treasurer's Report:

Given by Judge Hoort. He reported that he has Treasurer's Training on November 4, 2010 and that we need to sign the attendance sheet. A Motion to accept was made and seconded. The Motion Carried.

IV. Goals for 2010-2011

- Indigent Defense Reform – Hold till January to see if the “new” Supreme Court will take up the issue and for the Legislature to finalize a bill. Possible Policy Topic for M.I. conference – How to implement the changes / legislation.
- S.O.R.
- Lobbyist – Should the Criminal Law Section have a paid lobbyist? Topic of discussion was related to Costs, Ad hoc vs. Retained services and that the Section should be more proactive on some issues. It was agreed that the Chair would invite Liz Lyons from the SBM to our next meeting for her insight.
- Expanded Services – Newsletter, Programs, Less costly seminars, webcasts
- A Motion was made and seconded to have Matt Smith approach retired Judge Kolanda about producing the Potentially Dispositive Pre-Trial Motions Book – The Motion Carried.

V. Committee's Reports:

- a. By-Laws Committee – Has met and will have a report and model by-laws available for the next meeting.
- b. Electronic Communications – Clear as of now that there is strong support to maintain the printed newsletter. The Electronic Communications Committee will investigate.
- c. Scholarships – Each Committee to decide the number of and parameters for any scholarships. The fact that we offer scholarships will be transmitted with all notices regarding seminars.
- d. New Lawyer Training – New Committee formed to investigate a New Lawyer Training Program. Kiana Franulic, Opolla Brown and Jonathon Sacks.
- e. Ski Conference.  
The Shanty Creek Ski Conference will be held on February 19 to 21, 2011. The speaker for Saturday is Tim Baughman who will give us his annual update on the law. Possible topics were discussed. The general consensus was that a Motor Vehicle Theme will be followed.
- f. Mackinac Island - Tabled.
- g. Capital Outlays Committee – Steve Taratuta brought up the idea of video taping all of our training conferences and made a motion to buy a digital video camera. Elaine Spiliopoulos brought it to the Council attention that we spent over \$1000.00 last year renting a video projector for our programs. The Chair appointed Steve Taratuta, Elaine Spiliopoulos and Graham Teall to the Committee.

VI. Bruce Timmons gave us an update on HB 6389 and 6390 (PSI bills). A motion was made and was seconded that we Support HB(s) 6389 and 6390. 12 people were eligible to vote. The Vote was 12 yes, 0 no and 0 abstentions. The Council also discussed the Medical Marijuana Law and what to do about it. The idea of forming a Policy and presenting possible model language and other resources to the Legislature. Further discussion was suspended due to time constraints.

VII. Chair's Report

- a. Next Meeting – The meeting facilities Committee is to meet and make recommendations as to a new meeting location – possible locations- Lansing Country Club or somewhere in downtown East Lansing. Major concerns are the ease of getting to the location from the freeway and parking.
- b. Our next meeting will be at Christies on November 16, 2010.
- c. Snow Days – Tabled
- d. Attendance – Will strictly follow the by-laws.

VIII. Adjournment

A Motion was made and seconded to Adjourn at 9:20 p.m. There was unanimous support. The Meeting was closed.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Taratuta  
Chair-Elect / Acting Secretary

Edited by David E. Gilbert