

D R A F T

State Bar of Michigan Committee on Libraries, Legal Research, and Legal Publications

Meeting Minutes

February 27, 2016

Teleconference Meeting

Participating: Nancy Ballast, Jan Bissett, Kimberly Breitmeyer, Geraldine Anne Brown, Kincaid Brown (Chair), Marlene Coir, Randy Davidson, Barbara Garavaglia, Barbara Goldman, Laura Mancini, Audra Rose McClure, Joseph Novak, Ryan Painter, Janice Selberg, Heather Simmons, Ruth Stevens, Virginia Thomas, Thomas Weiss, Lance Werner, Erica Zimny

Excused: Lynn Ingram, Bernadette Bartlett, George Ward

Committee Chair, Kincaid Brown, called the meeting to order at 10:00AM.

Agenda Items

1. Committee Business

a. Minutes of the February 14, 2015 Meeting.

The Committee considered the minutes of the February 14, 2015. The minutes were approved without corrections or other amendments.

b. The Chair announced that Nancy Ballast of Grand Rapids has agreed to serve as the Committee's new Chair for 2016-2017.

c. Monthly Bar Journal Column Status Update

The Chair presented *Michigan Bar Journal* column assignments through November 2017. The assignment list is provided as an addendum to these minutes.

Four topics on the list remained unassigned. Janice Selberg volunteered to write for the September 2017 "Prisons and Corrections" issue. Jan Bissett volunteered to write for the November 2017 "Young Lawyers" issue. Erica Zimny and Nancy Ballast volunteered to write the June 2017 and October 2017 "General" columns, respectively.

d. Michigan Online Legal Resource Center (MOLRC) Update Cycle.

The Chair reported that most existing pages have been updated with two outstanding: 1) Debt Relief and 2) Elder Law. He expects to receive those updated pages shortly.

In response to the question of how web page changes are implemented, the Chair recommended sending notice of needed corrections to him.

e. New Veterans' Law Page

The Chair announced that a new Veterans' Law page in the Michigan Online Legal Resource Center is now live. On behalf of the Committee, he thanked Laura Mancini for her work on the project.

f. Web Statistics Report

The Chair reported an overall up-tick in Michigan Online Legal Resource Center usage. The usage increase occurred after the State Bar repaired a number of "broken" URLs.

2. 2016-06 – Proposed Amendments of MCR 3.925, MCR 8.119, and MCR 8.302 and Proposed New MCR 5.133.

The Chair circulated to the Committee information regarding proposed court rule changes pertinent to retention of court records. Specifically, the changes provided for policies and procedures intended to standardize management of court records and to provide a uniform basis for developing parameters on the use of technology in creating, accessing, routing, maintaining, and disposing of court records. The proposed amendments are intended to assist in implementing the goals of 2013 PA 199 and 201 and improving the policies and procedures adopted by the Court in 2012 under Administrative File No. 2006-47.

Given the April 4, 2016 deadline for comments, the Chair suggested postponing any action on this measure until all members have had a chance to review the proposed amendments. He offered to send a reminder to the Committee next week and set up a conversation on the proposed rule revisions via email.

3. Harvard Law School & Ravel Law

Heather Simmons called the Committee's attention to a major digitization initiative involving Harvard Law School and Ravel Law. The "Free the Law" initiative involves digitizing Harvard Law Library's complete collection of U.S. case law by mid-2017. The intention is to release the entire database available for use within 8 years.

More information on this initiative is available at:

<http://www.lawsitesblog.com/2015/10/huge-news-harvard-law-and-ravel-law-team-up-to-digitize-all-u-s-case-law.html>

4. UELMA Update

Marlene Coir provided a brief update on the status of UELMA legislation. She reported that there has been no additional states have enacted the legislation and that the legislation has failed on others.

The Chair added that since January 2016, UELMA legislation has been introduced in the following state legislatures: Arizona, Massachusetts, New York West Virginia, and Washington.

Coir surmised that cost and intrusiveness are primary concerns in adopting the legislation. She distributed a copy of the current uniform law. She also distributed a draft letter in support of the legislation that could be adapted by individuals or groups. Coir suggested that the distributed draft letter be amended by deleting the last sentence in the first paragraph and replacing it with the following language:

The Michigan Legislature's inaction in this matter was a disappointment to me and other like-minded constituents.

5. Communication with Groups outside the State Bar

In the absence of Lynn Ingram, the Committee's State Bar Liaison, the Chair noted that Committee communications with groups other than the State Bar must follow a vetting process. He will follow up with Lynn and have Lynn provide a status report for the Committee.

The Committee has not received a response to its November 2015 letter from ICLE regarding its current policy for library access to ICLE e-Books and other online resources

6. Updates

a. Member Reports and Announcements

- Geraldine Brown announced that scholarships are available for the upcoming Michigan Appellate Bench Bar Conference scheduled for April 20-22, 2016. More information on the conference is available from: <http://benchbar.org/conferences/2016-conference>.
- Randy Davidson noted that the U.S. Supreme Court has extended time to file briefs in the matter of *The Authors Guild v. Google, Inc.* to April

1, 2016 before ruling on the appellee's petition for certiorari. The petition requests the Court to review the Second Circuit's ruling that allows Google to reproduce copyright-protected books without paying the authors or requesting their permission to do so.

b. Next Meeting

The Chair announced that the next meeting will be held in May. He plans to send out a Doodle survey to poll the Committee for availability in advance of setting a meeting date.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia C. Thomas
Advisory Member