

November 10, 2008
Labor and Employment Law Section Council
Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at approximately 12:15 p.m. at the offices of Clark Hill in Birmingham, Michigan.

In Attendance: Daniel Bretz, Jeffrey Donahue (by teleconference), Darcie Brault, George Wirth, David Calzone, Robert Boonin, Dan Swanson, Joseph Starr, Stuart Israel, Dennis Boren, Brad Glazier, Megan Norris, Niraj Ganatra (by teleconference) **Absent:** Robert Palmer, Timothy Howlett, Andrew Nickelhoff, Larry Murphy, Barry Goldman

1. **Approval of Agenda.** The Agenda was approved.
2. **Approval of Minutes.** Megan Norris moved for approval of the Minutes for the October 13, 2008 meeting. David Calzone seconded. The Minutes were approved.
3. **Treasurer's Report.** George Wirth reported, providing the most updated financial information he has (unaudited year end for 2008), noting that the Bar is closing their books, doing their audit, and opening the 2009 year books. He should therefore have better financial information to present at the December meeting.
4. **Chair's Report.**
 - a. **Status of Bylaw Amendment.** Bretz reported that this is not yet completed but he is still working on it.
 - b. **2009 Law School for Legislators.** Volunteers sought for this interesting project, about which Elizabeth Lyon contacted Dan Bretz (materials distributed). Dan Swanson, Megan Norris and Jeff Donahue (head volunteer) volunteered. Bretz will get Donahue the information.
5. **December Holiday Reception:** Joe Starr reported that the date for this event will be Tuesday, December 16, 2008 at the Townsend; \$40.00.
 - a. **Speaker.** Herschel Fink will be speaking re: the FOIA lawsuit re: City of Detroit.
 - b. **New Lawyers.** For this event, if you pre-register and bring a new lawyer with 0-3 years of practice, the new lawyer gets in free. There will be a meeting for the interested new lawyers re: planning the Spring Seminar just prior to the December Holiday Reception.
 - c. **Publicity.** E-Blast and postcards should be out shortly.
6. **Mid-Winter Meeting**

- a. **Saturday Program Agenda, etc.** Rob Boonin distributed a plan with proposed publicity, event description and schedule for January 30 and 31, 2009.
 - b. **Ticket Price.** Council voted to increase the ticket price for members to \$75 and keep non-members at \$85. We will pay for parking. In an effort to cut costs, we decided not to pay for rooms for local speakers.
 - c. **Selection of Speaker.** Darcie Brault reported that neither of the pollsters we looked at were available, so we signed Phil Dine, author of *State of the Unions*. (\$6,000 plus unrestricted coach airfare, hotel, pickup up from airport, meal at event). Some discussion about keeping his remarks down to 35 minutes or so. Also discussed getting Borders involved again to sell his books on-site at the DAC.
 - d. **Afterglow.** Discussion re: how to encourage afterglow attendance. Talked about raffling “free” ICLE seminar tickets we receive (historically) when we sponsor part of the ICLE seminar. Talked about two hats: one for those with less than five years and one with more than five years in practice. Also discussed possibility of live entertainment by members of the section, e.g. “Cats Pajamas” with special guests. Also discussed two drink tickets, one for the cocktail party and one for the afterglow.
 - e. **Distinguished Service Award.** Megan Norris and Tim Howlett recommended that the Distinguished Service Award be presented to Shel Stark. Megan Norris made the motion, Darcie Brault seconded. The motion was approved unanimously. Dan Bretz noted that the award had been given 13 consecutive years and that there has been a balance of union/management/worker rights advocates given the award. There was some discussion about whether the council should consider making the award a biannual one.
7. **Lawnotes.** February 1, 2009 is the deadline for the next issue.
8. **Old Business.**
- a. **Gottfried Seminar.** George Wirth reported that we sponsored seven students for \$25 each to attend the seminar. A motion was made, seconded and carried, to approve the expenditure. Dennis Boren reported that the Gottfried Seminar drew a crowd of approximately 100 (near the same as last year, which was up from previous years). The topics were discussed briefly and it was commented that the materials were great.
9. **New Business.** None.

10. Next Meeting Date and Location: Our next meeting will be our Holiday Lunch. The Council agreed Novi is a good locale and Dan Bretz will choose and advise in the coming weeks.

11. Adjourn

Dated: November 10, 2008

Darcie R. Brault; Secretary

Labor and Employment Section