

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN  
PRISONS AND CORRECTIONS SECTION  
MEETING MINUTES  
STATE BAR BUILDING, LANSING**

**OCTOBER 18, 2008**

**PRESENT:** R. Beracy; S. Gobbo; C. Green; R. Johnson; B. Levine; D. Manville; M. Marutiak; R. Stapleton; P. Streeter; M. VanDusen.

**ABSENT W/EXCUSE:** S. Girard; N. Holbrook; J. O'Donnell; D. Moffitt; A. Watts.

**ABSENT WITHOUT NOTICE:** K. Schaefer; K. Thom.

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. with a welcome and introduction.

The meeting minutes from 5/17/08 were reviewed. A motion to approve the meeting minutes was made by P. Streeter, seconded by B. Levine. Unanimous approval.

The meeting minutes from the 9/19/08 annual meeting were reviewed. A change was made to the excused/unexcused absences sections: B. Levine was recognized as an excused absence. A motion to approve those meeting minutes as amended was made by R. Johnson, seconded by P. Streeter. Unanimous approval.

A Motion to adopt the agenda was made by S. Gobbo. M. Marutiak seconded, and the agenda was approved by the Council.

Introductions of Council members were held, with a welcome back being extended to D. Manville.

**DISCUSSION/ACTION**

- **Election Ballots:**

B. Levine made a motion that P. Streeter be allowed to destroy the September election ballots. S. Gobbo seconded. Approved. Members were reminded that we still have one vacancy on the Council.

- **Financial Report: S. Gobbo**

The section currently has \$438.90, which carried into the new budget year. We have only enough funds available to put out one newsletter. Ideas were solicited for generating more funds for the section, including discontinuing the hard copy newsletter in favor of only an electronic copy.

The Council voted to receive the Treasurer's Report.

- **2009 Law School for Legislators**

Chair Marutiak told Elizabeth Lyon of our sections' interest in being involved in this program. The sessions are to be 30-90 minutes, and the Bar will arrange space, food, reservations, etc. P Streeter made a motion that we make formal approval of our interest as a section. All were in favor.

Discussion included using our existing PowerPoint presentation to cover the "nuts and bolts" of corrections; followed by an overview of the topics on which our section has taken positions. It was stressed that we do not wish to go into too much depth, while making sure Legislator's have an understanding of current issues.

A Task Force was assembled to pick our dates of interest and to develop topics we wish to cover. B. Levine, D. Manville, R. Johnson, P. Streeter, and M. VanDusen volunteered for the committee. R. Stapleton will be available for consultation and M. Marutiak will serve as an ex officio member.

- **Topics/Themes for 2008-09**

B. Levine suggested we re-visit Credit reductions. This issue had been tabled until the fall for possible Council action. Barb had distributed some information on "Sentence Reduction Credits and Time Served Requirements in Selected States." She suggested we use these state comparisons to formulate a position statement.

Other topics included Federal Re-entry and Furloughs/Residential Placements.

Holding another spring conference similar to last year's "Balancing Our Priorities" symposium was also discussed. The proposal is to hold the conference in Wayne County area. M. Marutiak will consult with Judge Giovan of the Wayne County Circuit Court and report back to the Council in November.

It was agreed that our areas of focus for the upcoming year will so far be: 1) the School for Legislators, the Newsletter, and the possibility of another spring conference; 2) revisiting of the merit credit issue; and 3) legislative initiatives introduced after the new session begins in January.

**Newsletter:**

A. Watts will spearhead the newsletter for us again. Articles will be needed and welcome. Please e-mail Adrian at [attyacw@aol.com](mailto:attyacw@aol.com), or fax to her at 248-399-8530.

**MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:**

- **Report from Criminal Law Section: M. Marutiak**

The section will hold their first meeting 10/21/2008.

- Juvenile criminal law issues:

The Council expressed a desire to hear an overview on juvenile justice issues, particularly on juvenile waivers, from the leadership of the Children's Law Section. An invitation will be extended to the CLS for a representative or two to attend our November meeting.

**NEXT MEETING:** November 15, 2008, at 10:00 am, at the State Bar Association.

A motion to adjourn was made by S. Gobbo, seconded by C. Green. Meeting adjourned at 11:56 a.m.

**PRISONS AND CORRECTIONS SECTION**

Michael J. Marutiak, Chair