

**STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN
PRISONS AND CORRECTIONS SECTION
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
March 15, 2008**

PRESENT: Mike Barnhart; Sandra Girard; Natalie Holbrook; Richard Stapleton; Michele VanDusen; Rick Beracy; Adrienne Watts; James O'Donnell; Kathleen Schaefer; David Moffitt; Michael Marutiak.

ABSENT W/EXCUSE: Kevin Thom; Patricia Streeter; Cassandra Green; Steve Gobbo; Rachel Johnson; Barb Levine.

ABSENT W/NOTICE: None.

ABSENT W/O NOTICE: Joseph Niskar

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 a.m. with a welcome.

The meeting minutes from 2/1608, were reviewed. The meeting agenda was reviewed. The minutes and agenda were subsequently approved upon the arrival of David Moffitt when a quorum was reached.

David Moffitt, the newest member of the Council, was introduced and welcomed.

DISCUSSION/ACTION

- Financial Report: The 3/7/08 financial report was distributed. The available balance is \$3,709, not including remaining commitments or encumbrances for the year.
-
- Section Newsletter Report:
Adrienne Watts reported the newsletter is nearly ready for printing.
- “Summit Task Force” Status Report: Michele VanDusen

All panelists have accepted the invitation to participate in the conference Friday, May 2, 2008, at the L.C.C. West campus in Lansing. The invitations, program agenda and registration forms will be mailed next week. There was some discussion regarding the room sizes and microphone needs. The task force will continue to meet during April for last minute tasks and plans.

- Brief Reports—“Merit Credit Comparisons”:

The consensus of the Council was to table this discussion until after the May conference, as the conference may give rise to concrete proposals.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

In light of the upcoming May conference and the need for many Council members to travel to the Lansing meetings, the Council decided to forgo an April meeting. There was some discussion about meeting immediately after the panel sessions on 5/2, but the consensus was it would be too early to evaluate the conference outcomes at that point. Council members should plan on a May meeting (5/17) at which time we can review the success of the conference, in addition to other agenda items. The need to a June meeting will be decided at the May meeting.

The Council then considered the matter of an annual meeting program in September (Friday, 9/19, in Dearborn). James O'Donnell moved for our Section to approach the Criminal Law Section with a proposal to collaborate once again on a program at the annual meeting. Seconded by Sandra Girard. [The Criminal Law Council was so approached on 3/18. The CLC agreed to pursue agenda plans with us. The CLC appointed four delegates to meet with us: Chairperson Daniel Levy, Graham Teall, Barbara Levine, and Kenneth Malkin. Delegates from our Council will be Patricia Streeter and Michael Marutiak. It is expected discussions will begin after the May conference (cosponsored by both groups).

NEXT MEETING: May 17, 2008, 10:00 a.m., at the State Bar.

Motion to adjourn made, seconded and adopted. Meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

PRISONS AND CORRECTIONS SECTION

Michael J. Marutiak, Chairperson