

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
OF THE PROBATE AND ESTATE PLANNING SECTION**

**May 17, 2008 10:35 p.m.
State Bar of Michigan, Lansing, Michigan**

- I. The joint meeting of the Probate and Estate Planning Council was called to order at 10:35 a.m.
- II. **A. Council Members Excused:** Robin D. Ferriby, Hon. Kathryn A. George, Shaheen I. Imami, Marilyn A. Lankfer, Harold G. Schuitmaker, James B. Steward, Thomas F. Sweeney, Lauren M. Underwood
- B. Council Officers and Members Present:**
Nancy L. Little
Douglas G. Chalgian
George W. Gregory
- C.**
- | | |
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| Susan M. Allan | Amy R. Morrissey |
| W. Josh Ard | Rebecca A. Schnelz |
| Daniel E. Cogan | Richard J. Sirani |
| John R. Dresser | Marlaine C. Teahan |
| Mark K. Harder | Robert P. Tiplady |
| Ellen Sugrue Hyman | |
- Others Present:** Kris Arnett, Constance L. Brigman, Samuel D. Carpenter, Rhonda M. Clark-Kreuer, Hon. Phillip E. Harter, Mark E. Kellogg, J. David Kerr, Douglas A. Mielock, Jeanne Murphy, Honorable David M. Murkowski, Melisa Mysliwiec, Tracy Sonneborn, James P. Spica, Larry Waggoner, Derek A. Walters
- III. **Introduction of Guests:** All attendees, including guests, introduced themselves.
- IV. **Secretary's Report:** Motion was made by Daniel E. Cogan, supported by Richard J. Siriani to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2008 Council meeting. Motion passed.
- V. **Treasurer's Report:** George W. Gregory presented the Treasurer's report. George W. Gregory made a motion to approve the report. Motion was supported by Richard J. Siriani. Motion passed. **Attachment #7**
- VI. **Chairperson's Report:** No Report

VII. Report of the Committee on Special Projects: No Report.

VIII. Standing Committee Reports

A. Internal Governance

1. **Budget** – *George W. Gregory, chair.* No report.
2. **Bylaws** - *Marilyn K. Lankfer, chair.* No report.
3. **Michael Irish Award** - *Brian V. Howe, chair.* No report.
4. **Long-Range Planning** - *Lauren M. Underwood, chair.* No report.
5. **Nominations** - *Henry M. Grix, chair.*
6. **Relations with the State Bar** - *John R. Dresser, chair.* No report.
7. **Annual Meeting** - *Lauren M. Underwood, chair.* No report.

B. Education & Advocacy Services for Section Members

1. **Amicus Curiae** - *Mark K. Harder, chair.* No report.
2. **Continuing Education & Annual Probate Institute** - *Nancy L. Little, chair.* No report.
3. **Section Journal** - *Nancy L. Little, chair.*
4. **State Bar Journal** - No report.
5. **Pamphlets** - *Ellen Sugrue Hyman, chair.* No report.
6. **Electronic Communication** - *John R. Dresser, chair.* No report.
7. **Committee on Special Projects** – *Amy N. Morrissey/Richard J. Siriani, co-chairs:* No report.

C. Legislation and Lobbying

Legislation - *Harold Schuitmaker and John R. Dresser, co-chairs:*

2. **Michigan Trust Code** - *Mark K. Harder, chair*. See Minutes from Joint Meeting of the Council and Committee on Special Projects.

3. **Statute of Repose** - *John A. Scott*. No report.

D. Ethics, Professionalism and Standards

1. **Ethics** - *Marilyn A. Lankfer, chair*. No report.

2. **Unauthorized Practice & Multidisciplinary Practice** - *Thomas F. Sweeney, chair*. No report.

3. **Specialization and Certification** - *Shaheen I. Imami and Richard A. Shapack, co-chairs*: No report.

4. **Practice Management** - *Richard J. Siriani, chair*. No report.

E. Administration of Justice

1. **Contested and Uncontested Probate Proceedings** – *Amy N. Morrissey, chair*. No report.

2. **Uniformity of Practice** - No report.

F. Practice Issues, Related Areas & Liaisons

1. **Charitable Giving/Exempt Organizations** - *Robin D. Ferriby, chair*. No report.

2. **Estate Gift Tax** - *George W. Gregory, chair*. No report.

3. **Real Property Tax Issues** - *George W. Gregory, chair*. No report

4. **Guardianships and Conservatorships** - *Douglas G. Chalgian, chair*: No report.

5. **Business Law and Business Section Liaison** - *John R. Dresser, chair*

6. **Court Rules and Forms** - *Harold Schuitmaker*. No report.

7. **Elder Law/Elder Law Section Liaison** – *W. Josh Ard*:

8. **Family Law/Family Law Section Liaison** - *Patricia M. Ouellette*: No report.
9. **Real Property Law/Real Property Section Liaison** - *Richard Shapack*: No report.
10. **Tax Section Committee/ Tax Section Liaison** – *Lorraine F. New*:
11. **State Bar Liaison** - *Francine Cullari*: No report.
12. **Trust/Michigan Bankers Association Liaison** - *Daniel E. Cogan*: No report.
13. **Michigan Probate Judges** – No report.

IX. Other Business:

X. Hot Topics:

XI. Adjournment - the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas G. Chalgian