

MINUTES

MSBA Health Law Section – Governing Council Meeting November 9, 2011

Members Present: David Aafedt, Nancy Berry, Allison Coulson, Peter, Hofrenning, John Hutchins, Cindy Jesson, Gina Kastel, Jessica Kracl, Donna Loomis, Mark Myhra, Jennifer O'Brien, Sheva Sanders, John Soshnik, and Stephen Warch.

Others Present: Sue Bores

Call to Order: Cindy Jesson, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. at the MSBA conference room.

Approval of September Minutes: Minutes of the September 14, 2011, Governing Council meeting were approved.

Program Report: Program Chair John Hutchins reported that the October program on essential health benefits was held last week and that the November program will cover litigating with epidemiological evidence. A discussion followed regarding the December program which will cover antitrust enforcement in the health care industry. John suggested that the December program include an opportunity for attendees to make a donation to a food shelf or other charity. The Council agreed with the suggestions and recommended that John determine which charity would be the beneficiary of the donations. The January program will be the annual legislative preview, and John requested recommendations for speakers. It was suggested that the February program be a joint program with the Minnesota Medical Association and cover the Physician Sunshine Act.

Financial Report: Health Law Section Treasurer Peter Hofrenning gave the financial report. The Section's ending cash balance is about \$8,200, but the Section is losing money on each CLE program. The forecast is that the Section should break even for the year. A discussion followed regarding law student attendance at CLE programs. A high number of law students attended the September program, and the Section does not charge law students to attend. The Council decided to continue to allow law students to attend the CLE programs for free but monitor attendance to see if the Section should begin charging a fee for student attendance.

Planning for Nine Days in June: Cindy Jesson said she would like the Section to continue to reach out to the general bar about health law issues. She reminded the Council that the Section partnered with the Elder Law Section last year and presented a program entitled "Legal Issues at the End of Life" at four of the Nine Days in June events. The Council discussed having the Section participate in the Nine Days in June program again this year, and the consensus was that the Section should participate. Steve Warch, Donna Loomis and Cindy will work on proposals for possible programs and forward to the Council for review.

Law Student Reception: The Council discussed holding a law student reception together with the Food, Drug & Device Law Section. Sheva Sanders volunteered to have her law firm host the event. A date for the reception will be proposed at the January Council meeting.

Pro Bono Services: Gina Kastel reminded the Council that Marlene Garvis had approached the Section about participating in an ABA prepared program that helps lawyers understand a range of legal issues for patients with cancer. The program would include attending a training designed to prepare lawyers to help cancer patients with these legal issues on a pro bono basis. It was recommended that the program materials be obtained and presented at the next meeting or that Marlene Garvis attend the next Council meeting to discuss the program so that the Council can better understand the link between the training and pro bono opportunities.

Community Service Project: The Council discussed participating in a community service project this year. The Council did not have a particular project in mind, other than the charitable giving option that would be made available for Section members at the December CLE program. Cindy Jesson asked that any Council member participating in a community organization with a health focus bring service opportunities back to the Council for consideration.

Social Media Update: Jason Seashore provided a written update on the Section's social media efforts. The report noted that participation in the Section's Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn pages increased by 58% in September.

Other Business: None

Adjournment: There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:25 a.m.