

MSBA/NEW LAWYERS SECTION

Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2009

Members Present: Charlie Delbridge, Christina Weber, Michael Miller, Erika Donner, Jeff Anderson, Cory Olson, Kulani Mati, Shanda Pearson, Lindsey McCune, Anne Lindberg, Kathy Harrell-Latham, Cassie Fortin, Margie Jennings, Sam Edmunds, Lacey Anderson, Jennifer Daugherty, David Classen, Dan Gilchrist, Nicole James Gilchrist, Jess Slattery Karich, Anna Horning Nygren, Chanel Melin.

I. Opening Business

- A. Call to Order and introductions at 5:48 P.M. at the MSBA offices. Meeting chaired by Erika Donner.
- B. The minutes of the April, 2009 meeting are approved.

II. New Business

- A. Funding for social events.
 - 1. Chanel Melin moves that the Section fund a post-meeting social up to \$150, since it is the last meeting of the bar year. Sam Edmunds seconds. The motion passes unanimously.
 - 2. Chanel Melin paid \$200 out of her own pocket for the Winter Social. Margie Jennings moves to reimburse Chanel this \$200; David Classen seconds. The motion passes unanimously.
 - 3. The Section is in charge of finding a band to play at the MSBA Annual Convention. Sam Edmunds moves to hire the "Pot-Bellied Stallions," and for the Section to pay them \$900. Christina Weber seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.
 - 4. The Section is also in charge of hosting the hospitality suite at the MSBA Annual Convention. Michael Miller moves that the Section fund the hospitality suite for \$550, with around \$330 of that going toward the room, and the remaining going toward beverages. Chanel Melin seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.
- B. Report from ABA Spring Conference in New Orleans. The attendees enjoyed themselves, and reported that the social events were well-planned and fun, and that the CLEs were good as well.

- C. Funding for ABA Annual Convention and MSBA Annual Convention.
1. ABA Annual Convention. The officers received three statements of interest in attending the Convention, from Sam Edmunds, Mike Miller, and Nicole James-Gilchrist. The budget called for funding two people to attend the Convention, for \$300 each. The officers recommended funding Nicole for \$300; Sam for \$150; and Mike for \$150. Lacey Anderson moves to accept the officers' recommendation; Jennifer Daugherty seconds. The motion passes unanimously. Lacey Anderson further moves to make Nicole, Sam, Mike, and Jennifer Daugherty delegates; Christina Weber seconds. The motion passes unanimously.
 2. MSBA Annual Convention. The officers received two statements of interest: one from Lacey Anderson and one from Sam Edmunds. The officers recommend funding Lacey for \$300 and Sam for \$150. Mike Miller moves to adopt the officers' recommendation; Chanel Melin seconds. The motion passes unanimously.
- D. Bylaws Changes. Erika Donner presented the changes to the NLS Bylaws that the Section had been working on. Most of the changes were minor, and were not substantive, such as properly capitalizing defined terms. One substantive change was to switch the order of succession from Treasurer-to-Secretary to Secretary-to-Treasurer. Another substantive change was to amend the definition of the "Executive Board" so as to add the chairs of the standing committees and the Hearsay editors to being members of that entity. Finally, the Bylaws were amended to formally add the "officer trump card," which allows each officer to receive funding for one ABA conference per bar year. This had long been the practice in the Section, but had not been formally recognized in the Bylaws. Erika further outlined the procedure for amending the Bylaws: if it passes at this meeting, she will present it to the MSBA Assembly on the last day of the Annual Convention. Chanel Melin moves to approve the amendments to the Bylaws; Nicole James-Gilchrist seconds. The motion passes unanimously by voice vote.
- E. Officer Elections. The MSBA Nominating Committee nominates:
1. Chair: Lacey Anderson. No objection was made, and Lacey was elected.
 2. Vice-Chair: Christina Weber. No objection was made, and Christina was elected.

3. Treasurer: Charlie Delbridge. No objection was made, and Charlie was elected.
4. Secretary: Sam Edmunds.
 - a. This was the only position for which more than one statement of interest was submitted. In addition to Sam Edmunds, Troy Tatting also submitted a statement of interest. The Nominating Committee chose to recommend Sam Edmunds because of his high level of involvement over the past year with meetings and conferences.
 - b. Erika Donner discussed the procedure for making the selection between Sam and Troy. Each was allowed to give a statement. First, Troy's statement was read by Margie Jennings at Troy's request, because Troy was unable to be present at the meeting. Next, Sam gave his statement.
 - c. The Section was then allowed to ask questions of the candidates. There were no questions.
 - d. The Section then voted by secret ballot, with Nancy Mischel of the MSBA counting the votes. The results were 15 votes for Sam, versus 5 votes for Troy. Sam was elected to the position of Secretary.
- F. Presentation of Plaques. Plaques were presented to Mike Miller, Chanel Melin, and Erika Donner. Thanks to them, and others, for a successful bar year.
- G. Selection of Next Year's Committee Chairs
 1. Hearsay: Shanda Pearson and Andy Loose, editors.
 2. CLE: Margie Jennings and Kulani Mati, co-chairs.
 3. Social: Chanel Melin, chair.
 4. Community Service: Jessica Slattery-Karich, chair.

III. Reports

- A. Officer Reports

1. Secretary (Charlie Delbridge): Everyone remember to sign in on your way out.
2. Treasurer (Christina Weber): Everyone remember to submit your outstanding expense reports as soon as possible, so that they can be processed.
3. Vice Chair (Lacee Anderson): Register for the MSBA Annual Convention soon, as the early-bird deadline is Saturday, May 23.
4. Chair (Erika Donner): The sales tax on legal services, which was being considered by the Minnesota legislature, did not pass, thanks in part to the efforts of the MSBA. Also, Kayla Jurrens is no longer with the MSBA.

B. Committee Chair Reports

1. CLE (Margie Jennings): The CLE before the meeting was a success.
2. Hearsay (editors Sam Edmunds and Shanda Pearson): Articles for the next issue are due June 8. If you'd like to write something, your submission will likely be included.
3. Community Service (David Classen): The Section donated 260 pounds of food and \$470 from the Spring Social, which amounts to 2080 meals.
4. Social (Chanel Melin): The Spring Social was a success. Having the Spring Social in St. Paul, and the Winter Social in Minneapolis, seemed to work well, so that will be done again next year.

C. Affiliate Reports

1. Hennepin County: The HCBA is going to a St. Paul Saints game on June 7. Tickets are available.
2. Ramsey County: No report.
3. ABA/YLD: Jeffrey Toobin will be attending an upcoming corporate counsel CLE.

D. Liaison Reports

1. Computer and Technology Law Section: This section had its final meeting at the Nicollet Island Inn. At that meeting, they learned

about Best Buy's new transparency program, which will allow access to their employees' blogs, their unfinished, raw commercials, etc.

2. Criminal Law Section: The new Criminal Law Specialist Certification (from the MSBA) will be starting soon, around the end of the summer.
3. Construction Law Section: There is an upcoming CLE about bankruptcy. And the symposium is in two weeks. This will deal with the economy and how it is affecting the construction industry.

IV. Adjournment

- A. The meeting was adjourned at 6:38 p.m.