

## MSBA'S APPELLATE PRACTICE SECTION COUNCIL

### Minutes of April 7, 2011 Meeting

Attending: Chuck Webber, Andrea Reisbord, Erik Hansen, Robin Wolpert, Judge Bjorkman, Peter Gray, Rachel Bond, Louise Beherent, Karen Cole, Karl Robinson, Diane Bratvold, Liz Kramer.

Chuck Webber opened the meeting and requested approval of the minutes for the March 2011 meeting. The minutes were amended to reflect some changes in attendance but otherwise were approved.

Due to Jon Schmidt's absence, there was no treasurer's report.

Robin Wolpert reported on the status of the appellate luncheons set for April and August. The April 28, 2011 lunch will feature speaker Lyle Denniston. Lyle was able to secure a very reasonable airfare, so his expenses will be much less than we expected—which is good news! All planning for the April 28 luncheon is complete. The Civil Litigation section agreed to co-sponsor the Chemerinsky-Eastman luncheon that we are in the process of planning for August/September.

Robin Wolpert reported on the status of the Court of Appeals reunion. Robin expected the invitation to be drafted and sent out at the end of April. Judge Brisbois has agreed to be our speaker. Steve Buterin and Robin are working with Judge Johnson and Judge Lansing to plan the event. Steve is working hard to make sure that we send out the invitation to all former clerks and to obtain the email addresses of former clerks—a very time consuming task.

Chuck Webber provided an update on the annual meeting, which will be held on May 17 at the Forum. Judge Touissant has agreed to be our speaker. Ashley has been working with the Forum on the menu.

Chuck Webber then sought input from the Council regarding the Appellate Practice Institute and the reaction of attendees to the program. Chuck reported that he received very positive feedback about the program. Robin Wolpert reported that she too received positive feedback, especially regarding Chuck's fireside chat with Justice Stras, which was terrific. Others reported positive comments regarding Chris Bonneau, who gave a controversial talk on judicial elections.

Chuck Webber asked for an update on the pro bono programs and training sessions. Erik Hansen reported that the training for the new pro bono program in conjunction with Minnesota Advocates will be held in September. Rachel Bond reported that the criminal defense pro bono program is going forward. Chuck asked the Council whether there were suggestions for topics for a criminal defense training program. Chuck suggested one such topic—sentencing. Rachel said that she would check in with Jodie Carlson to discuss additional topics and a possible training session.

Chuck Webber turned to the subject of 2011-12 Council nominations. He asked those interested in serving as secretary/treasurer to email him of their interest. Diane Bratvold reported that the committee was in the process of working on nominations to the Council for 2011-12.

Robin Wolpert  
Vice Chair