

## MSBA's Appellate Practice Section Council

### April 2, 2009 Meeting Minutes

The MSBA Appellate Practice Section Council met on April 2, 2009, at the MSBA offices in Minneapolis. Steve Buterin led the meeting in Sherri Hawley's absence. The following council members were present: Jeff Muszynski, Judge Bruce Willis, Karen Cole, Judge Louise Bjorkman, Diane Bratvold, Robin Wolpert, Jim Simonson, Jon Schmidt, Chuck Webber, and Peter Gray (by telephone), Kayla Jurrens was the MSBA staff person on hand for the meeting.

The Council discussed the following topics:

1. Approval of Minutes. The minutes from the March 5, 2009, meeting were approved.
  2. Treasurer's Report. Chuck Webber reported that as of the end of February 2008, the section had a balance of \$8,024.51, and that the appellate lunch in April would cost approximately \$700.
  3. Dues amount for 2009-10. The MSBA is discussing a \$6 increase in section fees to cover administrative costs. Kayla recommended that the committee table discussion of this issue until she could circulate some information to the council. Diane added that the dues for the section will stay the same unless the Council votes to increase them.
  4. William Mitchell call for papers. William Mitchell's law review has invited articles for a Spring 2010 issue relating to the Eighth Circuit. Jon Schmidt said that the deadline will probably be in the winter of this year.
  5. Appellate lunches. The speaker at the next lunch on April 27 will be Charles Hall of Justice at Stake, who will discuss the *Caperton* case before the Supreme Court. The plant people at the Supreme Court building were on board for the lunch. Hall's air fare was reasonable, and he agreed to stay overnight. Diane Bratvold reported that the caterer had been informed of the complaints from the last lunch, and Diane said that the owner of the caterer will be there personally to supervise the event. We discussed the menu and the cost, which will be \$15 per person. Registration information will go out on April 3.
  6. Annual dinner. Judge Willis reported that the committee would be making a final decision between Solera and M&S Grill. Diane Bratvold said that they were trying to find a place with a quieter room and a reasonable price. We discussed potential speakers for the event, including Professor Knapp, Judge Loken, or someone involved in the recent Senate recount trial.
  7. Other business. The Council discussed the need for a nominating committee to recommend council members and officers for next year. The committee has to have one current council member and two members from outside the council. Judge Bjorkman volunteered to be the council representative on the committee. The committee will recruit two non-council members to round out the committee.
- Robin Wolpert mentioned that the MSBA Judiciary Committee was setting up a forum regarding judicial elections and reform. She said that there are good panelists for the panel discussions. She has a flyer, and suggested sending it to section members. The forum will be on April 14 from 5:00 to 8:00.
8. Next meeting. Scheduled for May 7, 2009

The meeting adjourned.

Chuck Webber  
Treasurer/Secretary