

MSBA'S APPELLATE PRACTICE SECTION COUNCIL

Minutes of October 1, 2009 Meeting

Attending: Steve Buterin, Chuck Webber, Chuck Maier, Karl Robinson, Louise Bjorkman, Karen Cole, Kay Nord Hunt, Diane Bratvold, John Baker, Jon Schmidt, Louise Behrendt, Robin Wolpert.

Steve Buterin opened the meeting and requested approval of the minutes for the September 3, 2009 meeting. The minutes were approved.

Robin Wolpert provided the treasurer's report. Based on figures available as of October 1, 2009, the section's balance was \$8,395.99.

Robin Wolpert gave an update on the logistics for the upcoming luncheon with speaker David Stras. Robin raised the question of a topic for the luncheon in January. Based on feedback from the group, Robin said she would contact Judge Wright to see if she would be able to speak at the January luncheon.

Chuck Webber then explained his proposed changes to the section by-laws. Most of the discussion centered on whether the by-laws should identify specific dates for an officer's term, whether the dates should conform to MSBA's calendar, and whether the dates should take into account the chair's participation at the annual convention. Steve then moved that the language be revised so that the terms begin on July 1 and end on June 30. Chuck agreed to revise the language accordingly. Chuck said that he would send the proposed revisions to the group for approval via email so that we could meet the deadline for obtaining MSBA assembly approval this year.

Karen Cole addressed the subject of updating the practicelaw.org templates. Karen proposed that the original authors be contacted to see if they would update the templates. If the original authors were unavailable, Karen suggested that we see if we can get some law students to help update the templates. Karen and Louise Behrendt will take the lead in identifying what templates need to be updated and asking the original authors if they can update the templates. Steve suggested that all Council members visit the website to review the existing templates to see what needs to be updated.

Steve Buterin announced that he, Chuck Webber, Diane Bratvold, and Robin Wolpert would serve on the committee to plan this year's Appellate Practice Institute. Steve asked for two more volunteers. Andrea Reisbord and John Baker volunteered. Judge Bjorkman agreed to serve on the committee as well.

Steve Buterin turned the discussion to whether the Council should support or create any additional pro bono appellate programs. The Council did not identify any additional pro bono programs.

Steve Buterin tabled until November consideration of the subject of what new technologies the Council could use to promote its goals.

Steve Buterin then discussed the need for the Council to create a CLE on appellate practice issues that could be presented at the outstate district meetings in June 2010. Steve said that the materials needed to be completed by January-February 2010. Karl Robinson, Kay Nord Hunt, Robin Wolpert, Chuck Webber, and Louise Behrendt volunteered to serve on this committee.

Robin Wolpert
Secretary/Treasurer