

## **MSBA'S APPELLATE PRACTICE SECTION COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of January 6, 2011 Meeting**

Attending: Chuck Webber, Steve Buterin, Jeff Muszynski, Andrea Reisbord, Paula Vraa, Andrea Reisbord, Eric Hansen, Robin Wolpert, Judge Bjorkman, Ashley Hacker.

Chuck Webber opened the meeting and requested approval of the minutes for the December 2010 meeting. The minutes were approved.

Robin Wolpert provided the treasurer's report on behalf of Jon Schmidt. Based on figures available as of January 2011, the section's balance is \$3634.21.

Robin Wolpert reported that Professor Dale Carpenter from the University of Minnesota Law School will be our speaker for the February 10, 2011 lunch. Robin reported that it may be difficult to obtain attendance from the Supreme Court justices on February 10 due to a scheduling conflict. She also reported that some Court of Appeals judges would be out of town. The Council agreed to proceed with the February 10 date. Robin informed the Council that the Court of Appeals reunion will be held in April or May and that she is working with Judge Lansing and Steve Buterin to plan the event. Chuck Webber agreed to ask the new Chief Judge if he would work with us in planning the event.

Chuck Webber then reviewed the planned speakers and topics scheduled for the Appellate Practice Institute.

Eric Hansen reported the results of his discussions with Minnesota Advocates for Human Rights regarding their pro bono program. Minnesota Advocates has a well developed and functioning pro bono program. It welcomes the opportunity to work with the Council to put on a training session and attract new attorney volunteers. Eric, Chuck Webber, Steve Buterin, Jeff Muszynski, and Robin Wolpert then discussed the possibility of putting on a training session with Minnesota Advocates this spring, with annual training sessions occurring in the fall for the pro bono programs the Section will be promoting (including unemployment compensation, criminal appeals, and Minnesota Advocates). The fall training program topic would rotate among these three pro bono programs (and others we might add in the future). The Council further discussed the idea of announcing our pro bono initiative at the API and devoting space on our website to promote these pro bono opportunities. The Council then decided to appoint a committee to develop a plan for promoting our pro bono initiatives. Members of the committee are Eric Hansen, Steve Buterin, Jon Schmidt, and Jeff Muszynski.

Robin Wolpert  
Vice Chair