

Minutes
Food/Drug/Device Law Council of the Minnesota State Bar Association
October 27, 2011 9:00 CDT

ATTENDANCE:

Attending the meeting in person: Mark Gardner, Gale D. Pearson, Katie Muller, Christine Kain

Attending by phone: Ranelle Leier, Jennifer Erickson, Nancy Husnik, Valerie Paula, Sarah Brew, Kathleen Mayerle

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

September Section Meeting Minutes

The minutes reflecting the September Section meeting minutes were approved and seconded.

Upcoming Section CLE Presentations

The "Epidemiology Basics" seminar was discussed for presentation in mid-November. Jen Erickson would like to hold the CLE jointly with the Health Law Group. The Town and Country Club in St. Paul was proposed as the seminar location. Meeting attendees discussed a variety of topics and resources for the presentation. If necessary, the presentation could be held in early December.

Gale Pearson discussed the "Point/Counterpoint on Pre-emption" presentation proposed for January, 2012. Potential presenters were considered. The panel presentation will be based upon a specific case.

Kathy Mayerle talked about the Mobile Apps presentation proposed for February, 2012. Kathy indicated it would be co-sponsored with the Health Law section. Mark Gardner offered suggestions for resources.

A Food Safety Program is proposed for March, 2012. David Graham is listed as heading this effort.

A full-day Food, Drug Institute/Life Science Alley program is being proposed for April, 2012. It was noted that a seminar event for credit lasting more than 3 hours would need permission from the head of Continuing Legal Education. Mark Gardner will lead this seminar.

The May 2012 Annual Meeting is proposed to include an FDA Update presentation from either local or national FDA staff. Brent Robbins is listed as the coordinator for this event.

A Social Event for the Food/Drug/Device section is proposed for Thursday, December 15, 2011. Nancy Husnik will coordinate this event which is proposed to be held in downtown Minneapolis. Discussion covered whether to invite other Section members, potential locations, time and estimated attendance (20-30). Christine Kain generously offered her assistance in planning this function. The December Section meeting could be held just before the event either at the event or in the MSBA offices.

Ideas for the March (2012) Law Student Reception were discussed. It was proposed that the F/D/D Section co-sponsor the event with the Health Law Section. Sue Bores will place this topic on the agenda for the next Health Law Section meeting.

Electronic Newsletter

Mark Gardner will talk to David Graham about the newsletter. There was some discussion as to format and length of the newsletter.

Law Student Writing Competition

Attendees discussed publication of the winning article from 2011. Suggestions were to place it on the Bar website or distribute it to Section members or publish it as the first item in the Section E-Newsletter. Other sources for publication were also mentioned. David Graham will be consulted. Erin Furlong will coordinate the Second Writing Competition. Sue Bores will follow-up with Erin.

New Member Recruitment

At the November meeting we will look at membership trends for the F/D/D Section. The membership drive could begin in November. Members are encouraged to get others to join. Recruitment can be extended to non-attorneys such as agency regulatory personnel. A promotional aspect of the Section is that it is more Federal- rather than State-focused, due to the regulatory nature of the issues encountered by the Section members. A suggestion was made to consider a lower fee or free attendance to Section seminars for "lawyers-in-transition." Those lawyers in-between jobs may feel more welcomed to the Section and could make contacts. Sue Bores will look into this idea.

There will be no meeting in November due to the holidays.

The meeting ended at 10:00 am CDT.

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Husnik, Secretary