

## MSBA/NEW LAWYERS SECTION

### Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2009

**Members Present:** Charlie Delbridge, Andrew Loose, Amanda Bloomgren, Todd Schenk, Mike Goodwin, Margie Meier, Jaimie Palmer, Mathea Bulander, Nicole James Gilchrist, Jessica Slattery Karich, Lauren Wood, Bill Peffer, John Remakel, Bob Ambrose, Chrissy Mann, Lacey Anderson, Michael Miller, Larry McGee, Colin Kreuziger, Chanel Melin, Anna Horning Nygren, Darryl C. Thomas II, Paddy Browne, Jessica Hulbert, Eric Elzen, Sitso Bedinko, Troy Tatting, Elise Peterson, Patrick Hayes, Evan Weiner, Erica Tollefson, Samuel Coleman.

#### I. Opening Business

- A. Call to Order and introductions at 5:35 P.M. at the MSBA offices. Meeting chaired by Lacey Anderson.
- B. The minutes of the May, 2009 meeting were presented. Chanel Melin moved to approve the minutes; Larry McGee seconded the motion. The motion passed.

#### II. New Business

- A. Budget Approval.
  - 1. Funding for ABA Annual last August. Per the 2009-2010 budget, there is an additional \$600 available to reimburse the Section's three delegates to the ABA Annual in Chicago—Mike Miller, Sam Edmunds, and Nicole James Gilchrist. There was discussion about whether to reimburse each for \$200, or to reimburse Nicole for \$300, and Sam and Mike for \$150 each (as was done from last year's budget). It was decided that the Section would reimburse each of the three for \$200 from the 2009-2010 budget. Todd Schenk made a motion to that effect, and Anna Horning Nygren seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
  - 2. Proposal to move funding from ABA YLD conference in Birmingham to conference in Virgin Islands based on interest of section. Lacey explained that statements of interest for attending the ABA YLD conference in Birmingham had been due by September 14, and none had been received. Lacey further explained that many have expressed interest in attending the ABA YLD conference in spring, which will be held in the Virgin Islands. There was discussion about whether to entertain a motion

to reserve the \$1,500 that had been allotted for Birmingham to fund extra people to travel to the Virgin Islands. It was decided that we did not need a motion; if nobody wanted to go to Birmingham we would just leave the unspent money in the travel budget for future conferences. Mike Miller then stated that he may go to Birmingham in any event, but that if he did he would not seek reimbursement from the Section. Chanel Melin moved that if Mike decides to go to the conference in Birmingham, he will go as the Section's delegate. Nicole James Gilchrist seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Final approval of budget for 2009-2010 bar year. Charlie Delbridge presented the proposed budget, and noted one mistake on it: under the heading "Suggested Breakdown for Travel," the budget says that the 2009 ABA Annual Meeting was in New York, when it was actually in Chicago. Lacey Anderson pointed out that under the same heading, the budget is blank as to the location of the 2010 ABA Annual Meeting, when in fact that meeting is in San Francisco. Chanel Melin moved to approve the budget with those two errors fixed; Margie Meier seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The approved budget is attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.

B. Committee Chairs.

1. Interest in open CLE Committee Co-Chair position. Lacey Anderson explained the committees that the Section has. The CLE Committee is in need of a co-chair to work with Margie Meier, the current chair. Mathea Bulander volunteered to fill the co-chair position. Mike Miller moved to accept Mathea Bulander as the CLE Committee Co-Chair; Andy Loose seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
2. New Membership Chair position discussion. Lacey Anderson explained that we are considering adding a new Committee Chair position: the Membership Committee Chair. This person would have two duties: (1) get the Section on social networking websites like Facebook and Twitter, and maintain the Section's accounts on such sites; and (2) work with liaisons to the Section from each of the four area law schools (such liaisons currently do not exist, but we're interested in creating those positions as well). Lacey sought a volunteer for the Membership Committee chairmanship, and Todd Schenk volunteered. Before Todd's chairmanship was voted upon, Larry McGee raised a point of order: this meeting's agenda states that statements of interest for the position are to be accepted until October 12. A motion was made to approve Todd Schenk as

the chair of the Membership Committee, and that if statements of interest in the position are received before October 12, those stating their interest will be considered as co-chairs. Margie Meier seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- C. Bylaws Update. Charlie Delbridge explained that the Section had been asked by the MSBA Assembly to amend the Section's bylaws, in order to simplify them. Charlie and Sam Edmunds have undertaken this task. They are hoping to have the new bylaws finished and approved by the Section in time for them to get final approval from the MSBA Assembly by December's Assembly meeting.
- D. Social Chair. Chanel Melin, the Social Chair, explained the year's social functions. First, the happy hour scheduled for after this meeting at Lyon's, which the Section is sponsoring up to \$200. In addition, there are two socials each year, and typically a community service aspect is combined with one or both of the socials. The Winter Social will be held on December 3, 2009. It will be in Minneapolis, but a specific location has not yet been determined. Anyone that is available to help out with the Winter Social is encouraged to contact Chanel. Finally, the Spring Social will be held in St. Paul. Date and location are TBD.
- E. Community Service Chair. Jessica Slattery Karich, the Community Service Chair, led a discussion of what types of community service events the Section wanted to do this year. She introduced a document that she had prepared: "Community Service Opportunities 2009-2010." That document is attached hereto as **Exhibit B**. Lauren Wood suggested that the Section consider participating in a Polar Bear Plunge. Troy Tatting suggested the Bedrace for Bridging. The group also discussed Feed my Starving Children. It was decided that the Section will proceed as follows: first, we will try to do a group event, such as food packing, in November. This will give the Section members the opportunity to get to know one another early in the bar year. Further, we will promote the donation of winter clothes in October to Bundle Up. Additionally, we will collect toys for Toys for Tots at the Winter Social in December.
- F. CLE Chair. Margie Meier, the CLE Chair, let a discussion regarding the duties of the CLE Committee generally, as well as some specifics about the CLEs being planned for this year. First, there will be a CLE at 4:30 PM on October 14, which is immediately prior to the October meeting of the Section. This CLE will give one Elimination of Bias credit. The CLE will be about gender and race in the courtroom, and will be presented by DecisionQuest. In addition, Margie is considering having a CLE at William Mitchell in St. Paul before the Spring Social, and to have that CLE also count for PLP credit for William Mitchell's students. This will hopefully increase law student interest in the Section. Margie and the new

co-chair, Mathea Bulander, welcome ideas for additional CLEs. Margie can be reached at [mmeier@larsonking.com](mailto:mmeier@larsonking.com) and Mathea can be reached at [mathea.bulander@walstenteslaa.com](mailto:mathea.bulander@walstenteslaa.com).

G. ABA YLD Schedule:

1. Midyear: Orlando Feb. 4-6, 2010—statements of interest to Lacey Anderson by Dec. 14, 2009. Will vote at Dec. 17 meeting.
2. Spring Joint Conference: St. Thomas, USVI May 13-15, 2010.
3. Annual Convention: San Francisco, CA Aug. 5-10, 2010.

H. Law School Reception—NLS members for panel—set for February. The MSBA has asked the Section to be part of the Law School Reception at the MSBA offices on February 2, 2010. Specifically, the Section is being asked to put together a panel to give a presentation to law students. The topics of the presentation will include new lawyers’ experiences in finding a job out of law school, what a new lawyer’s practice is like, and similar topics. There will be a question and answer session at the conclusion of the presentation.

I. Liaisons. Lacey Anderson led a discussion in lieu of Christina Weber, the Vice-Chair, regarding the liaison positions that are still open. Lacey also sought volunteers to fill as many of these liaison positions as possible. A number of people volunteered, as described more fully below. At the conclusion of going through all the liaison positions, Mike Miller moved to accept those that volunteered as liaisons. Nicole James Gilchrist seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The new liaisons are as follows:

<b>2009-2010 NLS LIAISONS</b>	
Alternative Dispute Resolution	Elise Peterson
Animal Law	Colin Kreuziger
Antitrust	Joshua Dorothy
Arts & Entertainment	Larry McGee
Bankruptcy Law	L. Kathleen Harrell-Latham
Business Law	Meredith Bauer & John Remakel
Civil Litigation	Melissa Wendland & Erica Tollefson
Computer & Technology Law	Jeff Anderson and Todd Schenk
Construction Law	Chanel Melin
Criminal Law	Patrick Hayes
Diversity Committee	Sitso Bedinko
Elder Law	Mathea Bulander
Food & Drug Law	Darrell Thomas

General Practice, Solo and Small Firm	Kimberly E. Brzezinski
Health Law	Jessica Hulbert
Human Rights Committee	Lauren Wood and Jaimie Palmer
Labor & Employment	Troy Tatting, probably
Legislative Committee	Michael Miller
Life & Law Committee	Elise Peterson
Probate & Trust Law	Mia Thibodeau and Chrissy Mann
Professionalism Committee	Laurie Young
Publications Committee	Mike Goodwin
Rules of Professional Conduct Committee	Bryan Seiler
Women in the Legal Profession Committee	Anny Horning Nygren and Lacey Anderson
Civic Education Committee	Elise Peterson

- J. *Hearsay* Updates. Andy Loose, a co-editor of *Hearsay*, along with Shanda Pearson, informed the Section that the 4<sup>th</sup> issue from last year recently came out. Next week, they will send out a call for authors and begin putting together the first issue of the new bar year.

### III. Reports

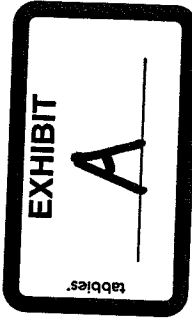
#### A. Officer Reports

1. Secretary (Sam Edmunds): Sam was unable to be at this meeting. Charlie Delbridge, on his behalf, asked that everyone sign in on the sign-in sheet before they left, and that they do so legibly.
2. Treasurer (Charlie Delbridge): Gave budget report earlier in the meeting.
3. Vice Chair (Christina Weber): No report.
4. Chair (Lacey Anderson): No further report.

### IV. Adjournment

- A. Chanel Melin moved to adjourn the meeting, and Todd Schenk seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 PM, and those interested moved on to the Section-sponsored happy hour at Lyon's.

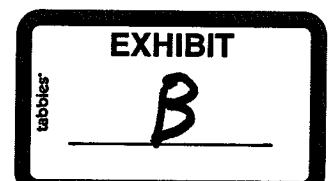
<b>MSBA NLS 2009/2010 Budget</b>			
Prepared by Charles A. Delbridge 25-Aug-09			
<u>Categories of Expenses</u>	<u>Allocated Funds</u>	<u>* Suggested Breakdown for Travel</u>	
Travel *	\$7,250.00	Annual Meeting 2009 (July 30-Aug. 1, 2009, Chicago, IL)	(3 people at \$200.00) \$600.00
		ABA-YLD Fall Conf. (Oct. 22-24, 2009, Birmingham, AL)**	(3 people at \$500.00) \$1,500.00
Meetings	\$700.00	ABA Mid-year Meeting (Feb. 4-6, 2010, Orlando, FL)	(3 people at \$750.00) \$2,250.00
		ABA-YLD Spring Conf. (May 13-15, 2010, St. Thomas, VI)**	(3 people at \$700.00) \$2,100.00
Programs and Outreach	\$1,250.00	ABA Annual Meeting 2010 (Aug. 5-10, 2010, San Francisco) *	(2 people at \$400.00) \$800.00
Affiliate Outreach	\$300.00		
Socials*****	\$2,500.00	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$7,250.00</b>
Newsletter/MSBA Service Fees	\$300.00		
Recruitment	\$200.00		
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,500.00</b>		
Surplus (Deficit)	\$0.00		
** Eligible for additional \$200.00 ABA Reimbursement			
*** Traditionally included in next year's budget (funding for conference fee only)			
**** Includes 2 socials, 2 happy hours, and event at 9 Days in June			



MSBA NEW LAWYERS' SECTION  
 COMMUNITY SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES 2009-2010  
 Prepared for Section Meeting September 17, 2009  
 Suggested Community Service Activities

Month	Event Ideas	Coordinators
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Food Shelf Drive (statistics indicate that food shelf needs have risen by 30% over the past few months).</li> <li>• Bundle Up—collect gently used coats, mittens and boots for women and children’s shelter. Bring donations in to November meeting.</li> <li>• Mentorship opportunities.</li> <li>• October 25-31 is Nat’l Pro Bono Week (see <a href="http://www.projusticemn.org">www.projusticemn.org</a> for opportunities).</li> </ul>	
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adopt a Family (e.g. Community Action Council’s “Arm Full of Love”—holiday wish list for families where we have the option of interacting with families and delivering gifts).</li> </ul>	
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Holiday Party and Toys for Tots Drive</li> </ul>	Chanel and Jessica
January		
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feed My Starving Children—group activity: <a href="http://www.fmssc.org">http://www.fmssc.org</a></li> <li>• Wills for Heroes—individual, legal based activity.</li> </ul>	
March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean Start—assembling</li> </ul>	

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	<p>laundry baskets with towels, toiletries, cleaning supplies, soap, toilet paper, etc. for families transitioning from shelters to housing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Professional Clothing Drive.</li> </ul>	
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ronald McDonald House-Cooks for Kids program (group activity—we would provide food and prepare a meal for 95-100 people): <a href="http://www.rmhc-um.org">http://www.rmhc-um.org</a>.</li> <li>• VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance).</li> </ul>	
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Annual Spring Social and Second Harvest Food Bank.</li> </ul>	Chanel and Jessica

After engaging in a little internet research on other states' young lawyers or new lawyers divisions, some have what appears to be a "pro bono /community service fair." It might be worthwhile to invite a few local groups (VLN, Tubman/ Safety Project, Wills for Heroes, LegalCorps, etc.) to come in and give us written or verbal information so NLS individuals can participate in what they find most meaningful to them.

Some questions to consider:

- How many community service projects can we take on and still do them well? How many would you be willing to participate in? How many would you be willing to help with?
- Would people be more likely to participate in a group activity at a set time and date, donate goods, donate legal services, or some combination thereof?
- Can we engage our firms or peers, or should this just be an NLS effort?
- Should we link these community service opportunities to our meetings or make them independent?

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you'd like to get more involved in any particular activity or the Community Service Committee generally.

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