

MSBA/NEW LAWYERS SECTION

Meeting Minutes

December 18, 2008

Members Present: Christina Weber, Ryan Frank, Laurie Young, Jonathan Drewes, Lauren Nuffort, Kodi Jean Church, Melissa Wendland, John Remakel, John Brennan, Kimberly Scott, Meredith Bauer, Sam Edmunds, Jennifer Daugherty, Charlie Delbridge, Priya Outar, Joy Anderson, Jane Maschka, Todd Schenk, Brandon Vaughn, Tony Beasley, Tom Borash, Mike Miller, Evan Weiner, Francis Rojas, Heidi Swisher, Shanda Pearson, Jessica Slattery Karich, Sarah McGuire.

I. Opening Business

- A. Introduction and Call to Order at 5:30 P.M. at the MSBA offices. Meeting chaired by Christina Weber.
- B. Minutes of the November 2008 meeting approved.

II. New Business

- A. William Mitchell ABA Student Division Funding Request. Lauren Nuffort and Kodi Jean Church, both of the William Mitchell ABA Student Division, are seeking funding for a student networking event. They have no grant from the ABA this year, so they are seeking funding from law firms, but would also like help from the NLS. Joy Anderson moves to fund the event in the amount of \$200; Jon Drewes seconds. The motion passes unanimously.
- B. ABA Mid-Year funding and reminder about future conferences.
 - i. Four statements of interest were received. The officers recommend that the Section fund Sam Edmunds, Jennifer Daugherty, and Jessica Karich for \$800 each, and Melissa Franzen for \$200, because she will be receiving additional funding from other sources. Mike Miller moves to follow the officers' recommendation; Laurie Young seconds. The motion passes unanimously.
 - ii. Mark your calendars for future conferences (& due date for statements of interest):
 - ABA YLD Spring Conference, New Orleans, LA, May 14-16, 2009 (statements of interest due to Erika Donner by March 12, 2009).

ABA Annual, Chicago, IL, July 30-Aug. 1, 2009 (statements of interest due to Erika Donner by May 7, 2009).

- C. Update on Bylaws Changes: No update.
- D. Hearsay publication (editors: Shanda Pearson & Sam Edmunds). The winter issue is coming out in mid-January. If you would like to submit an article, and can finish it quickly, talk to Sam or Shanda. Additionally, some good photos were taken at the Winter Social, and those will be in the winter issue.
- E. CLE Committee (Jennifer Lurken and Margie Jennings).
 - i. Report on November CLE.
 - ii. January's NLS meeting will be short, and will be followed by a financial presentation by Thomas Haunty.
- F. Social/Recruitment Committee (Chanel Melin).
 - i. Report on Winter Social. The Winter Social was a success.
 - ii. Mark your calendars for Spring social: April 16, 2009
- G. Community Service Committee (David Classen).
 - i. Toys for Tots Results—Thank you to everyone who helped! We raised over \$2,250 and 100 toys.
 - ii. Choose Law program volunteers needed at White Bear High School on January 6, 2009 at noon.
 - iii. Chrysalis Training. Jennifer Daugherty passed on information that she received from Erin Wacker, the staff attorney at Chrysalis: Training for the Safety Project will be held on January 14 and 21. You must go to both sessions.

III. Reports

- A. Officer Reports
 - i. Secretary (Charlie Delbridge): Please write your names legibly on the sign-in sheet for the meetings.
 - ii. Treasurer (Christina Weber): After the spending approved at this meeting, the Section has spend \$6,641.

iii. Vice Chair (Lacee Anderson): Jennifer Daugherty reports: Graham Paul Anderson was born! Mother and child are doing well.

iv. Chair (Erika Donner):

-The MSBA Rules of Professional Conduct Committee has voted to support a request to allow graduates of non-accredited law schools who are licensed in another state to sit for the Minnesota bar exam. Erika assumes that this would go before the Assembly's next quarterly meeting, so to the extent that new lawyers have an opinion as to whether she should vote for this in April, we can discuss it at our February or March meeting.

-The Assembly unanimously approved a resolution from the MSBA Human Rights Committee that MSBA take immediate and appropriate action to ensure that no Association funds are invested in a targeted list of companies whose operations are deemed to be complicit with the Government of Sudan's genocidal activities in Darfur, Sudan. (The Treasurer noted that MSBA does not currently have any such investments, with the exception of some small investments in parts of mutual funds, so it's not too much work to make it happen.)

B. Affiliate Reports

i. Hennepin County Bar Association: There will be a Lunch with Judges CLE on January 7; the judge is the Honorable Laurie Miller. Additionally, there will be brown bag lunch presentations on January 8th and 29th. See the HCBA website for details.

ii. Ramsey County Bar Association: No report.

iii. ABA/YLD: No report.

C. Liaison Reports

i. Business Law Section (John Remakel and Meredith Bauer). U.S. Representative Keith Ellison wants to give a presentation regarding pro bono work and diversity. The presentation would count for CLE credit. More details to come.

ii. Civil Litigation Section (Joy Anderson and Melissa Wendland). This section wants to get more involvement from new lawyers. On

February 3 at noon, this section will put on a panel discussion, including a question and answer session, featuring Chief Hennepin County Judge James Swenson, as well as a broad cross-section of accomplished civil litigators. The program will be free for law students and NLS members. This includes a lunch, a CLE credit, and a one-year membership to the Civil Litigation Section. Laurie Young moves to (1) approve a joint presentation of this CLE between the NLS and the Civil Litigation Section; and (2) approve sending out a mass e-mail to new lawyers. Seconded by Mike Miller. The motion passes unanimously.

- iii. Professionalism Committee (Laurie Young). There is an ethics CLE being planned for new lawyers.
- iv. Family Law Section (Heidi Swisher). There is a study currently being conducted regarding whether there should be a presumption in favor of joint physical custody. There is currently no such presumption. A report will soon be submitted to the Minnesota legislature on this issue.
- v. Legislative Committee (Jon Drewes and Mike Miller). Each section may present proposed legislation to the Legislative Committee. At this committee's latest meeting, there was discussion on proposed statutory amendments that were submitted by the Real Estate Section, Family Law Section, Business Law Section, Tax Law Section, and Probate & Trust Law Section. Contact Jon Drewes if you want details regarding the proposed amendments presented by these sections. Finally, 80% of the committee's lobbying funding went to issues that affect all attorneys; the other 20% went to the issues presented by these sections.
- vi. Appellate Practice Section (Jeff Muszynski). Appellate Practice Institute is March 6. This section's next meeting is January 5th at the offices of Gray, Plant, Mooty.
- vii. Antitrust Section. Joshua Dorothy is interested in serving as the liaison to this section. Jon Drewes moves that Joshua Dorothy be appointed to the liaison position; Jennifer Daugherty seconds. The motion passes unanimously.
- viii. Labor & Employment Law Section. The discussion from November's meeting, regarding this section's specialist certification standards, was renewed. The proposed standards for obtaining that certification are 6 to 10 years of practice, with labor and employment constituting 75% of practice; or 10+ years of

practice, with labor and employment constituting 60% of practice. Mike Miller moves that all of the actions moved at the November meeting be done again. To wit: (1) that an e-mail be sent out to new lawyers; (2) that the e-mail should describe the issue and have a link to the webpage on which the Labor & Employment Section is soliciting comments; (3) that the e-mail should state that this issue will be discussed further at the next NLS meeting, and those interested in the issue are encouraged to attend; and (4) that someone from the Labor & Employment Section should be invited to speak at the December NLS meeting. Jennifer Daugherty seconded. The motion passes unanimously.

IV. Adjournment

- A. The meeting was adjourned by motion at 6:15 PM.