

Colorado Bar Association-- Solo-Small Firm Practice Section

Minutes of Council meeting, December 12, 2007

Council members present in person were:

Brian Popp, Council Chair
Eric Nesbitt, Treasurer
Scott Stauffer
Jim Duve
Andy Friedman
Michelle Gersick, CBA staff
Reba Nance, CBA staff
Martha Karnopp, Secretary

Council members present by telephone were:

Andrew Toft, Board of Governors representative
Henry Smith, immediate past chair

I. Approval of September 28, 2007 minutes: Minutes were tabled until next meeting. Jeanette Gray Gilbert was elected as the newspaper editor. Other than that, the discussion centered around the main speaker for the CLE program, who was considered not that good.

II. Treasurer's report: Eric Nesbitt gave the treasurer's report. As of November 30, 2007, the section had a balance of \$10,857.97. Henry asked about the phone and internet charges. The former are for conference calls; the latter are for the list serve. The networking party is the largest single expense.

III. Old Business:

a. The Holiday Networking Party: Normally about 40 attend; last year (2006) about 100 attended. The Denver Young Lawyers group has been invited. Another email will be sent out. The cost food and drink is estimated to be about \$15/person. Reba and Michelle will get some door prizes from various vendors, but they recommended that the SSF buy some door prizes. Scott Stauffer made a motion to spend \$250 on door prizes; Henry seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

There was general discussion about networking and socializing. It was decided that the executive council would wear identifying nametags and members of the council should circulate to maximize exposure. We agreed to sit with people we don't know and introduce ourselves. The menu will be a sit-down luncheon with appetizers. The party will be on the 3rd floor. Another email invitation will be sent today, and also to the CBA. A big THANK YOU was expressed to Michelle for all her work on the party.

b. The Professionalism Committee was a no-show. We talked about the 20 vignettes on ethics which have been put on DVD and are available to various local networking meetings as topics for discussion. Henry and Jim want to preview them. It was suggested that the last CLE

presented by the section on 3/26/2008 consist of some of those vignettes. It was moved and seconded (Scott S., Eric) that the vignettes be used if they are successful when used in February.

c. We discussed the salary survey. It has been postponed due to computer problems to the after-tax season.

d. We discussed the DU/CU meetings with soon-to-be graduating attorneys. The DU meeting will be Feb. 26 or 28 (Reba will find out) and Scott Stauffer and Brian will cover that one. The CU meeting will be Feb. 19 or 20. Scott Walker, Scott Stauffer and Brian will cover that one. The section will provide the food.

e. By-law revision: There will be a presentation on this topic at the next meeting, by Henry Smith and Scott Walker.

IV. New Business.

a. Sean Bell is no longer the YLD liaison. Brian suggested Tiffany Warner, and he will email her about it. Also, Trent Ognert for the DBA-YLD was suggested.

b. Andy Toft reported on the Board of Governors. The section leaders have suggested business courts, perhaps just in Denver and maybe by 2009. Section leaders may speak with legislators about it. The full Board has not done much of substance, with a meeting of 3-4 hours on the new website. The Board of Rights has become the Civil Rights Committee. Law Day 2008 will have a theme of Rule of Law. We are anticipating a renewal of Initiative 32 on term limits for judges. The CBA opposes this idea. There is an anti-initiative movement. Mike Valdez will be on the next meeting agenda.

The Nominating Committee will meet in March and present a slate of candidates in April.

At the March 12 meeting, Gary ____ will report on the business of law.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Minutes submitted by Martha J. Karnopp, secretary.