

Minutes from 1/6 meeting

Attendance: Mary, Elaine, Chris Morganti, Kevin, Debbie, Mary Ann, Amanda, Susan Tomita, Mike Parks, Mike Healey, Pat Wagner, Micah Rose, and Pat Stelzner.

There was some confusion about the meeting start time, and the meeting began at 12:00. In light of the confusion, Kevin asked Veronica Cordova from the State Bar to give her presentation first. Veronica gave an overview of how the State Bar website worked and how the Section could use it's space on the website to it's best advantage.

Elaine Wright, previous chair gave an overview of the 2004 year.

The minutes from the 11/18/04 meeting were approved and moved.

It was established that there was a quorum of board members present, and elections of new officers could proceed.

Mary was elected as the chair elect,
Amanda was elected to secretary
Mary Ann was elected to budget officer
Micah was elected to YLD liaison
Brian was elected to CLE liaison
Pat S. was elected to Web liaison

Chair Kevin Hammar raised the question whether Section members should be invited to all meetings. The idea was strongly supported by the board and it was voted on and approved that all meeting will be open to members.

There was a discussion of whether the Section would need/want a newsletter. It was determined that no newsletter was needed, as two national newsletters from the ABA and AARP are already available to members. The ABA newsletter will be put on the website if possible.

There was a discussion whether the Section would pursue specialization in elder law for members. The general consensus was that a specialization in Elder Law was not needed at this time.

Debbie Armstrong gave an overview of the NM legislative web site and of the upcoming legislative session. Many initiatives have not been approved, but a general idea of what legislation is pending was given.

Amanda and Pat W. gave an overview of the NALC in October went. Amanda and Pat were recipients of scholarships from the Section. Both gave general discussion on issues raised at the conference, including issues on the FHA, predatory lending, confidentiality issues and HIPPA and family issues that many seniors and legal providers face.

The 2005 meeting schedule was proposed:

The first Thursday of each quarter at the state bar was proposed

A suggestion was made to have the next meeting before the April 1st CLE and the later meetings on first Thursdays at 12.

This was moved and approved.

The April CLE was discussed. It will cover capacity issues for seniors.

Topics for the next meeting included:

A draft budget will be available by e-mail by the end of February

It was suggested that another CLE should also be planned, possibly on emerging issues in Elder Law, including FHA, ethics and other subjects. SCLO advised they would not be holding a CLE this year so an Elder Law CLE won't interfere. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

Debbie Armstrong suggested that a quick legislative update be held at the next meeting.

Elaine Wright suggested that the Section consider the Convention in Ruidoso for the second CLE. The convention will be held September 23-24, 2005.

It was agreed that the section's mission statements should be posted to the website.