

Elder Law Section Meeting

Minutes 4/1/05

Attending: Rae Ann Shandley
Ann Sims
Mary Smith
Kevin Hammar
Mary Ann Green
Amanda Hartmann
Christine Morganti

Minutes were moved in, a request was made to add last names to minutes in the future.

There was a general discussion of the LREP Advance Health Care Directive by Amanda Hartmann.

Budget Review

Mary Ann Green reviewed the budget. There has been one additional Member

There are currently 91 members

General spending, One \$.37 stamp was purchased

There was a discussion of expenditures:

CLE cost nothing except for the reception. The reception was thought to be more than was budgeted.

There was a discussion of the website dues, it costs \$125 for the site.

The billing for the update of the resource directory was \$100.

Pat Stelzner has told us the work has been done, but as of the 4th there has been no bill.

Second CLE

Amanda Hartmann and Patty Wagner will be presenting at the September Bench and bar meeting. Amanda Hartmann will contact Patty Wagner and submit CLE paperwork to Rob Koonce of CLE to ensure they get credit for their prep time as well as presentation time.

Debbie Armstrong would also like to present a legislative update at that time.

Every section is getting a time slot for presentations; the most likely time will be September 23, Friday morning (this elicited chuckles)

There was a discussion of whether to have a reception at the conference.

There was discussion of doing biographies and such

Apparently the senior lawyers division is discussing having a capacity and guardianships presentation.

Scholarship Discussion

What was done last year to determine applicants was discussed. Applicants sent in a letter and a committee reviewed the letters.

Amanda Hartmann will look into when NALC is for the upcoming year and whether what it will be covering.

There was some discussion about whether to have a scholarship for NALC or for the NALA conference this year.

Mary Ann Green will discuss NAELA in New Orleans; Amanda Hartmann will discuss NALC, which will be in D.C.

Web Page Status

Chris Morganti will look into whether our vision statement is on the web, Veronica Cordova of the State Bar is setting the membership and firm finder search to search under practice sections. Individuals can opt out of being in this directory.

Rae Ann Shandley asked whether we could tell how many hits the section web page has had.

There was discussion of an electronic newsletter. Chris Morganti advised us that an electronic newsletter was most effective and that other sections were doing this.

New Business

Brian Jennings discussed raising membership dues by \$5.00 to increase receptions. It was decided that everyone would have time to think on this and this issue will be decided at the next meeting. Not dues increase would happen until October.

There was discussion of whether members would care about this little increase, especially since it would bring in an additional \$450 for the Section.

Scholarships could potentially be an additional “hook” for increased dues.

And reporting to membership and CLEs

It was again discussed that it would be good for Debbie Armstrong to give a legislative update.

Welcoming Dennis Feld

The Elder Law Section welcomed attorney Dennis Feld. Mr. Feld attended the meeting to find out if the Elder Law Section was involved in health care realm and was very concerned that many seniors were dying in hospitals from illegible or miswritten prescriptions.

Brian Jennings asked what capacity Mr. Feld thought the section should take on this issue.

Mr. Feld didn't know, but thought he would “throw this out” to the section.

Kevin Hammar asked for an e-mail pitch from Mr. Feld and Kevin Hammar will share and discuss it with the Health law section chair.

Amanda Hartmann mentioned that the State Bar was hosting a CLE on Advance Directives.

Mary Ann Green mentioned that Estate planning for non-taxable estates was being held on August 4th and an estate planning Cle was scheduled for August 26th.

SCLO and their Medicaid CLE is scheduled for next year.

There was discussion on these topics and the sections' interest in them. Additionally it was discussed whether the section should have two CLE's a year, one on a report by the scholarship recipients, and one on a new subject or topic.

It was agreed to think about these questions and to keep a judge in there.

The next meeting was scheduled for July 7th to accommodate the conference. The first Thursday of the month quarterly was discussed as set dates.

It was discussed, and mentioned that with more family monitoring this would be less likely to happen.