

Publications and Website Advisory Committee

Minutes for the meeting held at 9:30 a.m. on March 17, 2007 by conference call

Members participating: Beth Baergen, Fred Baker, Stephen Cooper, Francine Cullari, Steve Dunn, Joe Kimble, Robin Luce, Gerard Mantese, Gary Maveal, Jan McMillan, Fred Melamed, and John Tatum

Also participating: Nancy Brown, Marc Melamed, and Linda Novak

Excused: Jason Hanselman, John Juroszek, John Runyan, Steve Savickas, and Elmer White

1. Approval of minutes

The committee approved the minutes from the December 11, 2006 meeting.

2. Nominations of new PWAC members

The committee unanimously approved the nominations of Marc Melamed and Linda Watson. Fred B. will forward Marc's and Linda's résumés to State Bar President Kim Cahill for her consideration and approval.

3. LJAP theme request

We have been holding open the May 2008 issue of the *Bar Journal* for the State Bar Lawyers and Judges Assistance Program folks, who requested a theme issue some time ago. Because they have not formally accepted the offer of this issue, Fred B. will send them a notice, requesting a response by April 30.

4. Theme issue editors for August 2008 Malpractice and September 2008 Antitrust issues

Steve Dunn and Robin Luce volunteered to serve as theme issue editors for the August 2008 Malpractice issue. Francine will ask Linda Watson to co-edit with her the September 2008 Antitrust issue.

5. Theme issue requests

At Francine's suggestion, an Insurance theme issue was scheduled for May 2009. Francine will serve as theme issue editor. The committee approved a request from Laura Graham, State Bar Program Manager, Equal Access Initiative, for a Criminal Issues Initiative theme issue. The issue was scheduled for November 2008. Gary Maveal and Marc Melamed volunteered to co-edit the issue. Linda N. will follow up with Laura Graham and put her in touch with Gary and Marc. On a side note, John Tatum mentioned that he could use Marc's help on website issues, and Marc agreed to work with John in this capacity.

6. Discussion of annual Directory issue

After some discussion about the usefulness of the current Directory – such as whether we want to include a list of Michigan law firms in the Directory or expand our current online member directory, and whether we should conduct a survey to determine if the Directory meets our membership's needs – Fred B. asked Jan McMillan, John T., Nancy, and Linda N. to meet as a subcommittee to discuss these issues and report back at the next PWAC meeting in May or June.

7. Theme issue reports

Fred B. provided with the agenda Elmer's status report for the February 2008 Appellate Law issue. John T. reported that he's given Linda N. three feature articles for the June 2007 Computer Law issue. Jan reported that she has five articles in the revision stage for the July 2007 Paralegal issue, but one may not be ready for publication. Fred B., who volunteered to take over the September 2007 ACES issue from former PWAC member Yashmyn Jackson, said that he has not followed up yet with the section liaison. Gerard Mantese reported that he has been in contact with the section chair for the October 2007 Probate & Estate issue, but the issue is still rough at this point. Beth Baergen said she has four articles for the November 2007 Real Property issue.

Steve Dunn reported that it has been a struggle working with section liaison Kimberley Reed Thompson on the December 2007 Criminal Law issue. Steve and co-editor John Juroszek have not seen a list of authors/topics for the issue. Fred B. will follow up with the Criminal Law Section chair to determine the status of the issue and whether the section can furnish draft articles by a determined deadline, or whether we should reschedule the Criminal Law issue and use December 2007 for a general issue.

8. Short-story contest

Fred B. provided with the agenda a brief report on the short-story contest and the judging procedure. He will have more to report at the next meeting.

9. Legislator cover issue proposal

Fred B. summarized in the agenda some concerns from committee members about putting lawyer-legislators on the cover of the *Bar Journal* every two years as part of a mini theme issue and every four years as a full theme issue. Fred has not scheduled a meeting between the PWAC ad hoc committee and Janet Welch and Elizabeth Lyon to discuss the proposal further. Francine again suggested the idea of putting the photo of the lawyer-legislators on a second interior cover. The committee also discussed the idea of a wraparound external cover for this use. Nancy and Linda N. will get pricing options for alternative covers. John T. mentioned that the March 2007 issue, with the photo of the lawyer-legislators on the cover and one feature article, was a nice compromise.

10. Website report

John T. reported that the State Bar is making progress with the website. Contracts with ZenaComp (for development and support) and Verio (for hosting) are in the review stage and will then go to General Counsel.

Adjournment at 10:26 a.m.