

**STATE BAR COMMITTEE ON LIBRARIES, LEGAL RESEARCH,
& LEGAL PUBLICATIONS**

**Minutes of November 11, 2006 Meeting
State Appellate Defender Office, Detroit**

Present: Sharon Barnes (conference call), Jan Bissett, Randy Davidson, Randy Foreman, Barb Garavaglia, Daniel Kopka, TeLisa Owens, Janice Selberg, Ruth Stevens, Kathy Vance, and Dianne Zyskowski.

Absent: Sue Adamczak, Ann Baker, Barbara Bonge, Georgia Clark, Byron Cooper, Jane Edwards, Marjorie Gell, Barbara Goldman, Jim Hogan, Roger Peters, Marilyn Preston, Jennifer Schafer, Jennifer Selby, Charles Toy, and Lance Werner.

Chair Randy Davidson called the meeting to order at 10:16 a.m.

The Committee members present approved the minutes of the August 12, 2006 meeting.

Chair's Report:

Randy provided copies of the updated Committee roster. In addition, Jennifer Schafer has been appointed as the SBM Representative Assembly liaison to our Committee.

Randy also provided copies of the following recently published Michigan Bar Journal articles by Committee members: *Ethics Resources*, by Randy Foreman (September 2006); *Conducting Consumer Protection Research on the Internet*, by Sue Adamczak (October 2006); and *Electronic Resources for Research in Administrative Law*, by Lance Werner and Nicholas Bozen (November 2006).

Old Business:

Web Page Project

Randy provided an updated report from the State Bar on web hits for our web page. The report disclosed the following new statistics from July 21, 2006 to November 1, 2006. There were no responses to the online survey at the time of the report.

Help Center Home	4,445
Wills, Estate Planning, Probate	1,259
Family Law	1,325
Probate and Estate Planning	491
Elder Law	756
Michigan Law Websites	825
Landlord-Tenant Law	1,573
Finding a Lawyer	980
Finding a Law Library	435
Consumer Protection Law	696
Criminal Law	392

Randy appointed Ruth Stevens, Kathy Vance, and TeLisa Owens to a subcommittee to investigate and report at our next meeting on improving the web hits by promoting the web page to librarians and the general public. Sharon Barnes indicated that the State Bar will assist the Committee with promotion, including print materials (e.g., bookmarks, pamphlets). Dianne Zyskowski offered to forward to librarians on a listserv a copy of SBM's prior press release.

Committee members also reviewed the revised criminal law page. Barb Garavaglia suggested copying the link to finding a criminal defense lawyer to the page on finding a lawyer.

Barb also volunteered to draft a new page on debt relief.

Committee Position on HB 4686; HB 5964; and HB 6082

There being no quorum of voting members, and it appearing that these bills are unlikely to be voted on before the end of the current legislative session, consideration of these bills was tabled indefinitely.

New Business:

Directory of law libraries for April 2007 Michigan Bar Journal:

Randy distributed a sign-up sheet with copies of last year's listings, and Committee members volunteered to assist Barb Bonge in contacting each library and updating the information for 2007. Barb needs to submit the updates by the end of December.

Assignment for August 2007 Michigan Bar Journal article

New member Marjorie Gell had volunteered before the meeting to write the article for August 2007, and Randy made the assignment. The current theme issue schedule indicates that August is a general issue, but Marjorie will be writing on tax law resources. The deadline is June 15, 2007.

Round table on news and emerging issues:

Dianne Zyskowski reported that Oakland County is offering legal aid clinics one day per week, alternating between programs sponsored by the University of Detroit-Mercy and Lakeshore Legal Aid/Cooley Law School (Link: <http://www.oakgov.com/lawlib/news/index.html>).

Jan Bissett discussed an increase in requests for research assistance, following publication of her recent MJB article.

Janice Selberg reported that Ave Maria Law School has 380 students. The school has established an immigration asylum clinic (Link: <http://www.avemarialaw.edu/news/newsEvents/briefView.cfm>).

Janice also expressed interest in fully funding county law libraries.

Ruth Stevens is now a reference librarian at Cooley Law School's Grand Rapids campus. She is interested in developing guidelines for informing library patrons about the need to obtain legal counsel. Sharon Barnes will review whether the State Bar has any current pamphlets on the subject.

Randy Davidson informed members that SADO electronically scans case materials, so that a staff attorney can work from a remote location without having to carry transcripts and paper materials. It is also possible to quickly retrieve material from closed files.

TeLisa Owens has joined the firm of Sommers Schwartz as an appellate attorney

(Link:

<http://www.sommerspc.com/s2/content.asp?sCategory=all&sPage=attorneys&ATTORNEYID=71&DETAIL=1&smode=CORP&szone=CORPATTY>). Committee members also congratulated TeLisa on her election to the SBM Representative Assembly.

Barb Garavaglia reported that the University of Michigan has reduced the law library's annual budget by \$1 million. Barb is investigating the availability of a speaker for our next meeting to give a presentation on the Google Library Project.

Dan Kopka informed members about ICLE's revised publications on attorney fees, drunk driving, and basic practice (Link: <http://www.icle.org/store/supprevschedulealpha.cfm>).

Sharon Barnes indicated that SBM's E-Journal has now reported on over 30,000 decisions (Link to sign up: <http://www.michbar.org/publications/signup.cfm>).

Adjournment:

Our next meeting will be Saturday, February 3, 2007 from 10:00 a.m.-Noon at the State Bar of Michigan Michael Franck Building in Lansing.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Randy Davidson, Chair