



Committee/Section Meeting Minutes
HENNEPIN COUNTY BAR ASSOCIATION
The Board of Directors of the HCBA
Tuesday, June 12, 2007
HCBA Offices

The meeting was called to order at 12:10 p.m. by President Michael Unger. Members introduced themselves, as there were many designees of regular board members. The minutes of the May 8, 2007 meeting were approved.

The first item on the agenda was consideration of the Quie Commission report and the position that the HCBA might take. The board discussed the June MSBA Assembly meeting and the recommendation of the MSBA Judicial Elections Committee that they will be considering, i.e. the Quie Commission minority report. President Unger indicated that the MSBA has stated its desire to take an early position so as to be able to better affect the dialog. Appellate judges will take no position; the district court judges association will take a position at a meeting in September. President Unger described the differing apprehension levels of appellate and district court judges.

Mr. Morris espoused waiting until after the MSBA and the 4th Judicial District Court judges have taken a position. Ms. Ward-Reichard echoed that view but pointed out that a new board would have to be re-educated. Mr. Iwan pointed out that the MSBA could wait until September. Mr. Iwan indicated that there is no unanimity on the bench and bar committee, but the judges prefer the status quo to a retention election. Lawyer members of that committee perhaps are stronger supporters of a retention election. Judge Rogers cautioned against a rush to action at this time.

A motion was made and seconded that the HCBA take no position on the Quie Commission at this time, reserving the right to take such a position at a future Board of Directors meeting. Judge Sanberg suggested a web-based poll of the HCBA membership at the appropriate time to get the sense of the association. Mr. Strauss stressed the need for the HCBA to take a position eventually. The board informally indicated its preferences for the status quo, the majority report, the minority report or some other system of judicial selection and/or election. The motion was then adopted.

President Unger then described the background of the Call for Justice Task Force report, including its genesis and membership. He further described the process by which the Task Force operated. He indicated the concerns of some of the members of the Task Force. He stated that after a lengthy and productive discussion process, unanimous agreement was secured. The report recommends enhancement of the United Way's 211 referral system, both with information and database improvement. The report anticipates possible additional publicity, consistent with United Way's capacity. A further recommendation contemplates a brief advice pilot project, operating in areas not currently being adequately served; funding for such a pilot should come from largely new sources. The pilot will be intensely scrutinized.



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President Unger then indicated that a proposed resolution had been prepared that sets forth both the background and proposed next steps to implement the recommendations of the Task Force. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the resolution was adopted unanimously. A copy is attached to these minutes.

President Unger recognized Paula Shultze, Finance Director, who described the process by which the HCBA had put out the auditor's contract for bid. Staff recommends the selection of Olsen, Theilen as our CPA for the 2006-2007 bar year. Upon motion duly made and seconded, Olsen Theilen was appointed auditor. The board further authorized additional signatures for HCBA checks.

Mr. Buxbaum thanked the board for its interest and participation.

Ms. Schultze reported on financial results year to date.

President Unger thanked the board for its service this year. He specifically thanked Marlene Garvis for her years of service. He expressed his pleasure with incoming president Sonia Miller-Van Oort, who in turn praised Mr. Unger.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher Morris

Secretary