

MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF PROFESSIONAL COURT REPORTERS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AGENDA
Howell, MI
Friday, April 13, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by President Paul Brandell at 5:58 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Paul Brandell, president; Anissa Nierenberger, president-elect; Melinda Dexter, vice president; Elsa Jorgensen, secretary-treasurer; Kelli Werner, senior advisor; Cheryl Anne Farmer, executive director; Laurel Jacoby, director; Sharon Kandt, director, Pat Hyland.

SIGN ANTITRUST DOCUMENT

Antitrust agreements signed by board members.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

President Paul Brandell thanked the board members for their attendance and for respecting the opinions of others, recognizing each board member brings different strengths to the group, all while working together to strengthen the association. Paul was pleased at the good turnout for the meeting and expressed his gratitude.

Reading and approval of minutes.

ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Paul asked for corrections from the November 2011 meeting.

Pat requests page numbers on the documents.

Anissa made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2011, meeting, with the corrections noted above; motion seconded by Mindy. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following reports were pulled for discussion:

- **Convention/seminar
- **Fundraising
- **Public Relations
- **Legislative

Mindy moved to approve the remainder of the consent agenda; seconded by Darlene. Motion carried.

Convention/seminar (Nierenberger, Jacoby)

CA post for fall. All set Anissa – Julie Samford unable to attend. Will have a nutrition person for fall. CA asked for dates for spring. Maybe move the date? Keep Howell location?

Pat Hyland suggested checking with Ohio and with NCRA. Ohio has their yearly in March/April. Darlene said that our efforts to get quality speakers is showing good response. CA suggested finding “big name” for spring. Paul said we have 86 registered as of today.

Benefits of “big” speaker? Larger firms want to sponsor big-name speakers.

Sharon asked re Kislingbury. Mindy wondered if he was available. Pat said people were still very into Kislingbury.

Anissa asked about attendance for last spring.

Gerry asked about student attendance.

Darlene spoke to procrastination in registration for seminar and mentioned tax time.

Paul said the bottom line is w/Anita Paul – did we make money?

Laurel – research some names.

Darlene – stress quality. Keep momentum for quality.

Mindy suggested keeping return speakers fresh.

Kelli asked about grammar people. MWW? Varallo? Richard Lederer?

Anissa – Kislingbury (CA MK was \$7000 or \$8000) Anita was much less. Would need big sponsors.

Anissa – a.m. and p.m. person – more appealing to broader audience. Laurel agreed.

Kelli – 9/11 speakers from regional. Pat said people were riveted.

Mindy – Casey Anthony reporters.

CA – find people who are current.

Kelli asked Mindy about Holland case – Court TV/Nancy Grace

CA – we are all in agreement for ½ day for name speaker

Gerry has a CR who subbed for Wayne Circ. For RT. Valassis v. NewsAmerica. \$600 million verdict. Panel of reporters.

CA – Bashara case?

Mindy – Notorious MI Trials

training every other year or one speaker?

Anissa suggests CAT training will go down a bit in two years.

CA – re CAT – people not all covered.

Laurel – students wanted software training.

CA – keep it in Howell? Anissa said yes. Others agreed. Good location, especially for student attendance.

Darlene wondered about going more north

CA said maybe GR? Gets good numbers. Will look at 2014.

Pat wondered about keeping it in one place every year. Anissa and CA said that’s why we’re using Howell. Yes, keep for spring.

CA – dates? Last week of April? Laurel talked about spring break times. CA said she had four CRs say

Sharon said the last week of April is too close to the NCRA test.

Mindy suggested April 26/27, 2013, and doing an RPR test prep

Anissa – will affect feature speaker if test prep.

Ca students for a.m.

Paul asked about how far in advance CA needs to check on fall seminars. CA said used to do two years out. We are locked in to KZoo.

Darlene wondered about checking GR around art festival.

Anissa congratulated CA on doing such an awesome job. Thanked her. Notepad with date.

Paul said the changes are a progression.

Mindy – date in JCR.

CA – re budget for this conference – vendor fees will be lower due to negotiating.

Gerry knows good trainer for CC. Pam Syzinski. Maybe consider and compare cost.

Mindy – Paul – no contact from MI and neighboring states for SG.

CA – will talk to vendors about promoting training seminars.

Fundraising (Jorgensen, Werner)

Kelli – walk for hearing. May 19. 5K MAPCR team. Is it too late to try? Paul suggested announcing it Saturday.

Signup sheet

Kelli, Elsa, Laurel, Anissa, Annette, maybe CA.

Public Relations (Dexter, Nierenberger)

Mindy – also under unfinished business.

We Are Technology! campaign. Reminded us what it's about.

Kelli, Susie Hoffman (9CART), Dawn Houghton, Mindy -

Paul said video people whol group saying We Are Tech.

Mindy wrote a ditty 12:20 at lunch on Sat.

Video guy wants to speak.

Video will be shown on whiteboard instead of big screen.

Need to focus market of video.

Mindy – do we want sponsors? Will have a brochure to send to HS's. Contract for video is \$800 due to travel expenses. Will it cause conflicts between, say, SG/Eclipse, this firm/that firm? Darlene felt we should “stay pure.” Anissa agreed.

Mindy suggested trademarking WAT. Kelli will talk to dad.

We will owe people T-shirts – late registrants.

Mindy re brochures – need budget for it? CA \$1500 not used for bootcamp.

Paul asked where brochures will be going. Mindy said to HS primarily. Anissa asked about still shots from vid for brochure.

CR schools could sponsor? Kelli suggest online schools too.

Mindy - new logo will be rolled out with video.

Pat asked about copyriting of vid. Mindy said it will be uploaded to MAPCR YouTube via link. Mindy will clarify that. Pat wondered about a CD/DVD. Gerry said you can save the file. Anissa said you can download it.

Mindy said we need to keep his logo. Showed it. Congratulated CA on it for the design

execution.

Anissa – try and get (coming from NCRA) they want us to infiltrate where we've been vs. talking to schools. Anissa requests that we go back to our alma maters and present about CR. Show them what CR is.

Got 13 people joined since phone bank day. Not sure of reason/impetus to join, though.

Video done in two weeks. Anissa said ASAP due to school being out. Elsa suggested targeting before NCRA seminar.

Fall for HS.

Sharon - JUST program to bring actual cases to schools. Very effective to show kids. Four times a year.

Anissa - Dan Glassman from Eclipse. Dan invented a mini steno machine. Bring those machines to the schools so kids see them.

Darlene said kids love to see the machines.

Legislative (Brandell, Fuller)

Paul – NCSA from Adam Finkel. Read email re legislation in OH re CR copy sales for officials. GA had legislation – third-party contracting.

CA – relationship with the state bar with ads.

Paul – working with law bars. Passed around flyer saveourcourtreports.org

We may distribute Lisa Migliore-Black's flyer per her.

Istockphoto.com for licensing on pics.

WE can print or hand out the flyers but cannot use graphic to do something electronically.

Gerry said we could recreate them for defense and plaintiff. MAJ – does booth at their seminar. Plf convention.

Paul will continue working with NCRA to tweak flyers for different occasions. Gerry said do one with MAPCR logo. Darlene said add “check for the blue cards.” Paul said attys don't know to ask.

Mindy asked about sending to CR. Gerry said they should be aware of it. Paul: Are you ready to answer the questions you might be asked?

Add something about CR responsibility.

Pat PA 249

Laurel – are you informed? (ask nonmember CRs)

Pat – are you following the transcript guidelines?

Mindy asked about Q on forum re list to do confidential work. RE wanting to be a

reporter for an atty for an approved list. Gerry said possibly it's an insurance company. Mindy – isn't that contracting?

Paul asked about monitoring Q's on forum. Mindy will do that.

Darlene – insurance companies rule MI. Gov. Snyder repealed helmet law. May be in a good legislative mode to address insurance/CR issues.

Paul stressed importance of keeping relationships with key people. Paul will talk to lobbyist.

CA suggested meetings/conference calls with key people.

Darlene – mich assoc of counties – friend – will talk to him about CR/officials. Just putting it out there that timeliness is everything.

Mindy – we want membership to know we're doing something.

Done w/consent agenda per Paul

^ moved; ^ seconded acceptance of remainder.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

1. Past Presidents Advisory Council (Werner) -- everything fine.
Anissa updated on Val and Bruce Rissi.
2. Awards Committee (Perrish, Zimmerman, Hansen)
Paul – nothing to report. Read what the awards are on the MAPCR site.
There are people out there that are deserving. Please read them and think of who we could nominate for them.
3.
Audit/Finance (Jorgensen)
CA - good
4. Bylaws/Procedures (Brandell, Kandt)
CA/Paul – go thru board policies. Advised Sharon to go thru and ask questions.

REPORTS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES

1. Student Seminar/Outreach/Career Day (Nierenberger, Kandt, Blough)
Mindy went to MCC. Sharon said she was very well rec'd. Karen McNeill joined as a result.
Laurel went to OCC. Talked about testing.
CA asked about lapse of RPR – Mindy said there are CR's using RPR and not actual members of NCRA.

Mentoring brought up by teacher.
Mindy said we need a signup sheet for Saturday.
CA said we needed more guidelines. Addressed mentor/student relationship.
Laurel said the CR should contact student. Anissa said it's too hard to keep relationship going.
CA said it needs to go back to committee about mentor guidelines.
Mindy asked if we could ask CRs present who will buddy up with student.
Pat said include area. Mindy/Gerry said to buddy them up for day.

2. Golf Outing (Brandell,Hansen)
Paul – going fine. Tenth year doing it. We have 8 sponsorships already.
Good start. Changed course to Hawk Hollow. Change of pace, keep it more reasonable for a fundraiser. Will get with Gerry for sponsorship for door prizes.
Mindy asked about using new logo. CA will change.
Paul asked for item donations for raffle. June 22nd.
3. Historian (Werner)
kelli nothing to report. Keeps track of what's going on. Kelli asked for notices of things going on. Paul suggested members' goings-on.
4. Website (Farmer,Dexter)
CA working on new store. Redoing it. Other than that, status quo.
Laurel – Pat Murray bought lumbar pillows for all.
Mindy – focus on We Are Tech. tshirts.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS and GENERAL ORDERS

Sharon said RPR test selections. Opted for all online. Bring equipment in case of failure. Still waiting for confirmation from NCRA. Sharon agreed to administer third NCRA testing set for August. RPR/RMR/all. Paul and Anissa recognized Sharon for the great job she is doing.

Scholarship fund. CA – we have a committee. Elsa was on that committee. CA we have \$100 now. Elsa will check NCRA's policy
Darlene suggested running a raffle to build up the scholarship.
CA – per conference? Per school? To come to seminar? Equipment?
Mindy suggest hanging on to \$\$ until we have a policy. Paul agreed.
Mindy/Sharon – students need to apply. Essay or such.

Paul – pro bono west. Carrie Clark-Berry would like us to put out the word
Laurel

CRs knowing what the pro bono guidelines are.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1.
- 2.
3. Set dates for upcoming meetings

For the summer meeting, Cheryl Anne offered Gregory, MI, cabin on Sat., July 21st 10 a.m.

4. Record Times deadline
Next deadline Jan 25, 2013. The next is April 2013.
Kelli requesting other life stuff: babies, neat trips, exciting life events.
- 5.
6. Fall Convention Dates

OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS

Kelli – shout out to Anissa for making cover of JCR w/article.

Paul suggested covering an article for the JCR with tagline of MAPCR.

Anissa – asked about lineup for training Sat.

ADJOURNMENT

Mindy moved to adjourn; Kelli and Pat seconded.

Paul adjourned the board meeting at 8:05 p.m.