

Maryland State Bar Association  
Consumer Bankruptcy Section  
Executive Council Meeting  
Baltimore, Maryland  
Minutes  
March 13, 2008

Attendees:

M. Wolff	A. Gordon	D. Gorius	M. Caskey
M. McLean	D. Piekarz	C. Coon	C. Krohn
H. Ammerman	T. Aquia	R. Stolker	C. Fascetta
L. Robinson	M. Cantrell	C. Krohn	M. Kivitz
R. Rogers	J. Nesson		

MINUTES:

I. Call to Order at 6:20 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 6:20. M. Wolff, Section President and Executive Council Chair, presided and thanked everyone for coming.

II. Minutes for February 6, 2008 were unanimously approved by motion by C. Fascetta, seconded by R. Rogers.

III. Nominations Committee Report  
Presented by R. Rogers; Chair. Committee comprised of L. Jenkins, council member, and Scott Robinson, non-council member.

It was agreed that J. Nesson would create a flyer to post at Meetings of Creditors and a draft letter for new Maryland bar attendees to solicit new section members.

Mr. Rogers noted that the Nomination's Committee's proposed slate of officers and council would be presented at the April council meeting with elections of the council Executive Committee to follow at the May council meeting. Therefore, any council members wishing to run for the executive committee were directed to submit applications by email to R. Rogers immediately.

IV. CLE Committee, Brown Bag Lunches:

A. M. McLean reported a hiatus on the brown bag lunch program pending the council's focus on other matters such as the planned MICPEL programs on

Best Practices in Consumer Bankruptcy and the MICPEL on Maryland's New Foreclosure law.

V. Liaison Committee

The Committee presented its proposed letter relating to fees, pro se debtors and attorney competency issues.

VI. Annual Meeting

Various program ideas were discussed, including A. Gordon's presentation of the New Maryland Foreclosure law. A. Gordon noted that numbers of foreclosures have tripled in Maryland and that it is estimated that this represents only a small percentage (20%) of anticipated defaults.

All present agreed that the focus of this year's Annual Meeting presentation ought to focus primarily on foreclosure-related matters.

VII. CLE Committee

By motion by C. Fascetta, seconded by T. Aquia, a subcommittee was formed to work with Chapter 13 Trustee's on a "Nuts and Bolts of Chapter 13" program intended for both consumer bankruptcy attorneys and their staff.

Committee members: C. Fascetta, R. Stolker, M. Wolff, M. Caskey, D. Piekarz, R. Rogers, and the Chapter 13 Trustees.

Possible Chapter 13 Issues:

- Strategies to shorten time between filing and confirmation;
- Strategies to address the large default rate (with no payment to either counsel, creditors or Trustees);
- Collaborative effort between counsel, trustees and the bench to address the pro se problem—possible panel of lawyers with some agreement regarding fees;
- Several ideas were identified: immediate imposition of voluntary wage orders and pre-confirmation adequate protection payments and disbursements by chapter 13 Trustees.

VIII. Adjournment

Upon motion by T. Aquia, seconded by M. McLean, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.