

MARYLAND STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
CONSUMER BANKRUPTCY SECTION
OPEN MEETING
MINUTES (v.1)
Location: Columbia, Md
April 20, 2009

ATTENDEES:

Christopher Fascetta	Michael Wolff	Sari Kurland	Terri Lowery
Gerard Vetter	Nancy Grigsby	Jeff Nesson	Bill Bolton
Richard Stolker	Lawrence Robinson	Antonio Aquia	Marty Caskey
Charles J. Broida	Harris Ammerman	Brett Weiss	Mary Park McLean
Alan Belsky	Michael Cantrell	Stan Levenson	Dan Press
Tom Bornhorst	Edward Hagan		

MINUTES:

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Consumer Bankruptcy Section (“Section”) was called to order at approximately 6:13 pm by Christopher Fascetta.

II. MINUTES

The Minutes of the March 10, 2009 meeting were discussed. Brett Weiss moved for approval of the Minutes. The motion was seconded by Lawrence Robinson. The motion passed.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Brown Bag Lunches

Mark Park McLean advised that the next luncheon seminar will address proof of claim objections and take place on April 29, 2009. The panel will consist of Laura Margulies, Jeanne Crouse, Brett Weiss and Michael Cantrell.

Gerard Vetter advised that Glen Meyer has been able to obtain three commitments for locations that could be used for the luncheon seminars in Baltimore.

Ocean City Program

Gerard Vetter advised that the committee is still working on the attendees for the presentation. Governor O’Malley will not be in attendance because he will be out of the country, but Chief Judge Bell is likely to be present.

Chapter 7/13 Nuts and Bolts Seminar

Michael Wolff advised that Judge Lipp informed him that the bench is supportive of the program, including the concept of mock trials, such as contested confirmations, motions for relief and motions to dismiss. Assuming the facilities are available the thought is that the program would take place in September or October, 2009. Michael is moving forward with developing the agenda, the date for the presentation and the materials.

Michael also reported that the Montgomery County Bar Association is interested in co-sponsoring the event, including underwriting some of the costs and providing facilities, if necessary.

Richard Stolker moved to authorize Michael Wolff to proceed with finalizing the Chapter 7/13 Nuts and Bolts Seminar as discussed above. The motion was seconded by Brett Weiss. The motion passed.

There was general discussion regarding the recordation of the program by Gore Brothers and making the recording available to Section members for a low cost.

There was general discussion regarding the use of funds that had been donated to the Section by the Chapter 13 Trustees. Sari Kurland moved to allow Christopher Fascetta to consult with the Ocean City committee for the June, 2009 program, along with Michael Wolff and to design an allocation of said funds between the Ocean City program and the above noted Chapter 7/13 Nuts and Bolts Seminar. The motion was seconded by Brett Weiss. The motion passed.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Pro Se Matters and the Help Desk

Jeff Nesson discussed his experience having volunteered at the DAP Help Desk in Baltimore. There was general discussion regarding the subject.

Gerard Vetter advised that Jessica Vollmar informed him that she was in need of volunteers to man the DAP Help Desk. Gerard indicated that he would approach the Bankruptcy Bar Association (“BBA”) to determine if they could seek out additional volunteers.

Appendix F

Christopher Fascetta advised that the bench has published the amendments to Appendix F and is seeking comments from the Bar, the same having been published on March 31, 2009. The Bar has 60 days from said date to offer its comments.

Nominations of Officers and Board Members

Christopher Fascetta advised that May 1, 2009 is the deadline by which individuals should express their interest in becoming a Section Officer or a Board member. If interested, individuals should send an email to Christopher directly.

There was general discussion regarding the creation of a Treasurer position on the Board.

Christopher advised that he will form a nomination committee who will develop a slate of officers to be addressed at the May, 2009 meeting.

Legislative

Sari Kurland advised that she and Alexander Gordon testified in Annapolis regarding the creation of a homestead exemption in Maryland. She reported that the bill in support of the same died in committee. There was general discussion regarding the merits of the homestead exemption.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Conduit delivery of post petition mortgage payments

Gerard Vetter advised that the issue was on the agenda for the BBA's Spring Break Seminar. There was general discussion regarding the issue.

VI. UPCOMING MEETING

May 18, 2009 – Bar Headquarters

(Note: Meeting date changed since the meeting held on March 10, 2009)

VII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Brett Weiss. The motion was seconded by Lawrence Robinson. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Michael T. Cantrell
Secretary