

MSBA CORRECTIONAL REFORM SECTION COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting September 28, 2010

Members Present: Scott Oakley, Stephanie Lane-Weber, Paulette Wirsching, Angela Eaves, Patricia Lesnick, Joe Tetreault, Roland Knapp, Arnold Hopkins, Walter Lomax, Monique Dixon, Moges Abebe.

Call to Order/Introductions: Chair Scott Oakley called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 p.m. at the Office of the Attorney General. Judge Andre Davis could not make the meeting on September 28, 2010, but will try to attend a future meeting of the Section Council.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on June 8, 2010 were reviewed. Paulette Wirsching moved their approval; Arnold Hopkins seconded the motion, and the motion carried. The minutes of the Annual Meeting held on August 31, 2010 were reviewed. Paulette Wirsching moved their approval; Roland Knapp seconded the motion, and the motion carried. A copy of the inscription on the plaque presented to Commissioner Kavanaugh was circulated.

Financial Report: The Chair attended the MSBA orientation for new section chairs. The budget for the CRSC Section is \$1,721.00. Although we requested \$3,000 (\$2,000 for meals and \$1,000 for miscellaneous items), only \$1,721.00 was approved.

The cost of the Annual meeting was \$1,090.15. The Chair will request that the MSBA appropriate an additional \$760.15 for the past bar year (2009-2010), or as a supplement for the current bar year (2010-2011).

Correctional Reform issue of the Maryland Bar Journal: Correctional Reform is the subject of the Maryland Bar Journal to be published in November 2011. The Council will provide topic suggestions and authors, but Janet Eveleth, the editor will plan the issue and work with authors to develop the articles. **The deadline to provide topics and authors to Ms. Eveleth is the end of this year—Dec. 2010. Please provide firm commitments by the November 2010 meeting.**

Proposed topics and authors include: (1) Diminution Credits/Joe Tetreault; (2) Overview of the Criminal Justice System/Michael Berlin; (3) Youths Charged as Adults/Monique Dixon and Wendy Hess; (4) 40th Anniversary of the Inmate Grievance Office/Scott Oakley; (5) Review of Supreme Court Cases that Impact Prisoners' Rights/Stephanie Lane-Weber and Maureen Dove; (6) Women Inmates/(Angela Eaves to speak with Magistrate Judge Susan Gauvey); (7) Justice Policy Institute on Juveniles Sentenced to Parole Eligible Life Sentences/Walter Lomax and Tracy Velasquez; (8) Senate Bill 714/(Arnold Hopkins to speak with Senator Webb); (9) Solitary Confinement/Moges

Abebe; (10) Aging Prison Population/Arnold Hopkins, Roland Knapp and Michael Berlin.

Correspondence: Michael Lytle, Esquire (Warnken law firm) contacted the CRSC to commend to our attention the Extra Legals Group at the Jessup Correctional Institution regarding the group's interest in having the CRSC speak at a conference.

Trina Selden of Out for Justice, a grantee of Alternative Directions, may be asking the CRSC to provide assistance to inmates who need "relief from civil disabilities" that hamper their return to the community. Gene Nuth forwarded Ms. Selden's email to the CRSC's attention. Roland Knapp suggested including the topic in the CRSC's Reentry work.

Selection of Topic(s) for the Year: The following topics were proposed for the CRSC to work on this bar year: (1) Aging prison population; (2) Reentry of offenders into community; (3) Maryland Restorative Initiative; (4) Criminally charging youthful offenders as adults; (5) Patuxent Institution's treatment and remediation programs.

After a vote, the CRSC chose the following topics: (1) Aging prison population—Arnold Hopkins and Stephanie Lane-Weber will spearhead; (2) Reentry of offenders—Angela Eaves, Michael Berlin, Patricia Lesnick and Walter Lomax will spearhead. **Topics will be presented at the October 2010 meeting.**

Legislative Liaison: Tabled until October 2010 meeting.

Future Meetings: October 19, 2010 at Open Society Institute; November 16, 2010 at MSBA Hqtrs.; December 14, 2010 at MSBA Hqtrs.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:15 p.m.