

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF SECTION COUNCIL
REAL PROPERTY SECTION
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2007**

A meeting of the Section Council for the Real Property Section of the MSBA was held on Tuesday, November 20, 2007 at Elkridge Furnace Inn in Elkridge, Maryland. The following Section Council members were present: Michael Swanenburg (Chair), Sara Arthur, Thomas Barbuti, Marc Bergoffen, Lila Cyr, Ron Deutsch, Mark Dopkin, Emerson Dorsey, Sheila Durant, Guy Flynn, Dave Freishstat, Nicole Lacoste, Searle Mitnick, Cindy Motsko, Paul Reiger, Theresa Shea, and Tracey Skinner.

1. Call to Order – Mr. Swanenburg called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.
2. Chair's Reports –

(a) Code Revision - Mrs. Cyr reported on the legislation passed by the Maryland General Assembly during its Special Session in Fall 2007. She gave a brief summary of the Controlling Interests bill (HB 2/SB2), which bill was signed by Governor O'Malley and will become effective on July 1, 2008.

(b) By-Laws – It was proposed that the By-Laws be revised to require that the Past Chair of the Section Council serve as an honorary member of the Section Council for one (1) year period, instead of the current two (2) year period. After a brief discussion, this suggestion was declined.

(c) Sick Building Syndrome - Mr. Swanenburg solicited interest of any members to speak with a journalist from The Daily Record, who is researching a possible article on sick building syndrome. Any interested members should contact Mr. Swanenburg.

(d) AG/Task Force on Predatory Lending. Mr. Deutsch reported that the task force formed to address predatory lending practices within the State has completed a report, which report has been sent to Governor O'Malley.

(e) Law School Liaisons - Daniel Mayer (University of Baltimore) and Jocelyn Shields (University of Maryland) have been identified as liaisons to the Section Council for their respective law schools. Mr. Mayer was present and reported on the activities of the real estate law club at the University of Baltimore. A brief discussion was held on assisting the real estate clubs at each school with developing a closer relationship with the Real Property Section, and in having the real estate clubs coordinate with the Section's mentoring program.

(f) Mentor/Mentee Program - There was a brief discussion regarding encouragement by mentors to their mentees to attend the real estate discussion group lunch meetings. Students may attend the lunches if they are a member of the UM or UB

real estate clubs (a portion of which dues is towards the lunch meetings) and if they are student members of the MSBA.

(g) Open Positions - Mr. Berghoffen volunteered to be the successor editor for Ground Rules. He will be assisted by a student through the law school liaisons.

(h) 2008-2009 Budget - Mrs. O'Connor requested that anyone with items for consideration for the 2008-09 budget please submit them to her.

3. Committee Reports

(a) Legislative Liaison/Code Revision – Report by Mrs. Cyr given with respect to the Special Legislative Session, above.

(b) Commercial Real Estate Discussion Group – No report.

(c) Technology Committee.

(i) Webcasting – No report.

(ii) List Serve – Mr. Dopkin led a discussion on the scope of appropriate material for the listserve. It was agreed that occasional reminders would be posted regarding the MSBA rules of etiquette for listserve use.

(iii) Website Monitoring - Name changes have been completed; the web site has been updated.

(iv) E-Filing – No report.

(d) Education – Mr. Swanenburg reported that there was an increased turnout for this year's program, and the program had been favorably received.

(e) Foreclosure Trustee Committee – Mr. Deutsch stated that the recent breakfast meeting was well attended and well received.

(f) Ground Rules – Mr. Deutsch reported that the material is ready for the next publication.

(g) Alternative Dispute Resolution – Mr. Barbuti reported that the Section co-sponsored an ADR program on October 30, 2007 with the Alternative Dispute Resolution Section.

(h) Land Use. Mr. Freishstat reported that the November 2, 2007 seminar on lobbying went smoothly. He also conveyed the contact information for a land use blog

that is hosted by Patty Smalkin, Associate Dean at Albany Law School, which information was also posted on the list serve.

- (i) Land Records Oversight – No report.
- (j) Planning Committee – No report.
- 4. Other Reports/Updates – No additional reports or updates.
- 5. New Business
 - (a) Meeting – The next meeting of the Section Council will be held on Monday, January 14, 2008, at 6:00 p.m. at a place to be determined.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Theresa B. Shea, Secretary