



**MINUTES OF REAL PROPERTY PLANNING AND ZONING
ANNUAL MEETING
MARYLAND STATE BAR ASSOCIATION
OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND
JUNE 18, 2004**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Ray Truitt at 8:25 a.m.

Chair Truitt spoke about the activities of the Section Council during the past year and expressed his appreciation to officers and members of the Section Council for all their help and assistance. A special note of appreciation was made to recognize Larry Conn for his work as Chair of the Code Revision Committee and to recognize Nicole Lacoste for her work as Chair of the Commercial Real Estate Lawyers Discussion Group Lunches.

Chair Truitt thanked Paul Rieger and Nancy Haas for their help throughout the year and the MSBA staff for all their cooperation, specifically, Paul Carlin, Pat Yevichs and John Anderson.

The Chair was pleased to report that the newsletter *Ground Rules* continues and that the Commercial Real Estate Discussion Group Lunches are having continuing success. In addition, the Listserv is functioning well and is appreciated by many members of the Section. The Section website will now also have a threaded discussion section.

The Chair congratulated Priscilla Carroll on a successful Advanced Real Property Institute and noted that she has agreed to serve as Chair of the Advanced Real Property Institute again in 2004.

Special recognition was given to the Code Revision Committee for a terrific job. As everybody knows, there has been substantial pressure on the General Assembly to address off record transfers of beneficial interest in entities owning real property. The Code Revision Committee is constrained to limit its involvement to technical comments. Chair Truitt suggested that all real estate lawyers keep their clients involved in the happenings of the General Assembly, especially in connection with taxes on transfers of beneficial interest and taxes on IDOTs.

Chair Truitt reported that he and others met with Maureen Dove, the Assistant Attorney General. The Assistant Attorney General has been trying to find a replacement for Julia Andrew and the position has been filled. The new Assistant Attorney General dealing with transfer tax and recording tax issues and giving advice to the Clerks of the Court with respect to land records is Bruce L. Benshoof, Esquire.

Chair Truitt then asked for a report from the Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee reported the following nominations:

To serve as Vice Chair for a one-year term: Thomas C. Barbuti

To serve as Secretary for a one-year term: Tracey E. Skinner

To continue to serve as Chair of the Code Revision Committee:
Lawrence S. Conn

To continue to serve as Chair of the Commercial Real Estate Attorneys' Discussion Group: Nicole M. Lacoste

To serve as Members-At-Large of the Section Council for a two-year term ending June, 2006:

Michelle R. Curtis – Montgomery County
Michelle DiDonato – Howard County
Nancy Haas – Baltimore City
Hilary O'Connor – Baltimore County
Theresa B. Shea – Baltimore City
Michael S. Swanenburg – Baltimore County

Chair Truitt asked for a vote, and all nominees were elected. The following Members-At-Large shall continue to serve for the remainder of a two-year term ending June, 2005:

Mark D. Dopkin – Baltimore City
Guy E. Flynn – Baltimore County
William M. Hoffman, Jr. – Montgomery County
Kathleen McTeague – Anne Arundel County
Derrick M. Quick – Baltimore City
Jack N. Zemil – Baltimore City

David M. Kochanski automatically will become Chair of the Section for a one-year term pursuant to Section 402 of the Section by-laws.

Raymond G. Truitt, as the immediate past Chair, and J. Paul Rieger, Jr., as the penultimate past Chair, will serve as honorary non-voting members of the Section Council, pursuant to Section 302 of the Section by-laws.

Chair Truitt then discussed the Section's Distinguished Real Property Practitioner Award. This year, the award was presented to David H. Fishman, of Gordon, Feinblatt, Rothman, Hoffberger & Hollander. David Fishman was in attendance and gave some remarks. He was very appreciative of this award.

Chair Truitt then introduced David Kochanski as the Chair for 2004/2005. David Kochanski made a few remarks, asked everyone present at the meeting to see if they can assist in getting more people involved in Section activities, remarking that the Section does a tremendous amount of work each year, and David expressed his appreciation and congratulations to Ray Truitt for a very successful year. The Section presented Ray Truitt with a gift.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas C. Barbuti