

**MSBA State & Local Government Law
Section Council Minutes
September 29, 2008**

The Council convened a teleconference on September 29, 2008 at 1:00 p.m. The following Section Council Members participated on the call: Chair Bill Varga, Karen Federman-Henry, Steve Orens, Chuck Thompson, Bob McDonald, Rob McCord, and Laura Swisher.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the Council's August 26, 2008 meeting were distributed by email after the meeting had begun. *Were they approved? I don't think so.*

Fall Dinner Program - Co-Sponsored by Administrative Law Section

Sponsorship - Chuck wasn't able to make too many phone calls, but is sending some materials to Paul Tiburzi. Ernie Crofoot agreed to sponsor in amount of \$350 on behalf of Funk & Bolton Government Practice Group. Laura agreed to send a letter to Ernie and figure out who the money should be sent to at the Bar Association. The sponsorship money is to help cover the fixed costs. Steve will check to see if his firm can match the Funk & Bolton sponsorship.

Registration - Form will be modified to include presentation of the award and presentation by Katie O'Malley. Only 18 people registered currently. Teresa Michael told Bill that someone inquired about reserving a table.

Award - Chuck followed up and spoke to the State Ethics Board and MSBA. All agree that it was OK to present ceremonial award as long as both MSBA and Joe Curran disclose and report. See attached email from Jennifer K. Allgair, General Counsel, State Ethics Commission. Bill went to Things Remembered and found a clock that can be engraved. He thought it was very nice, and once engraved, it has no resale value, to satisfy the ceremonial value issue.

Program - Laura agreed to put together a program to hand out at the event, which would acknowledge sponsors. While Laura had offered to have WSSC print the program, she realized that she was not due back from Mexico until late in the afternoon the night of the dinner program. It was agreed that she would have graphics done and camera ready, and either provide to Bill the week prior or arrange for the programs to be printed and delivered by her office. (Note - MSBA agreed to print the programs, and deliver to event.)

Costs - Bill was concerned about the budget as the contract guaranteed Marriott \$3,800, which required about 90 paying attendees. He was going to check to see if MSBA could send notice to entire membership. The dinner was listed in the free online calendar of events in the Daily Record. We need to pay for 7 guests, the panelists, Joe Curran and his wife, and Katie O'Malley. Rob will ask that the program

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announcement get sent out to MACO and MML. The email will refer firms interested in sponsorship opportunities to contact Laura or Chuck.

Municipal Law Blog - Committee

Bill reported no developments since last meeting.

Adjourn

Bill asked that everyone work on increasing registration for the Dinner Program. The meeting adjourned at approximately 2 p.m. ? *Didn't note time.*