

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 18, 2009
FAMILY LAW SECTION COUNCIL MEETING
VIA TELEPHONE CONFERENCE

Linda Pall welcomed the participants

David Hyde moved to approve the minutes of the January 21 , 2009 council meeting and Fred Zundel seconded his motion. Minutes were approved

The treasurer's report is still being drafted at this time.

A. 1. Committee reports

List Serve: The List Serve continues to function well with lots of traffic.

Survey Committee: Fred Zundel reported that there were no surveys from our neighboring states, however Fred distributed the model of the ABA survey. Changes have been tailored to suit Idaho. The committee will meet next week to prepare a draft for circulation to the Family Law Section members. Debra Everman stated that there would be no costs involved in the distribution.

Legislation & Rules Committee: John Schroeder and the rest of the council congratulated David Hyde on his work in drafting the final impact statement concerning the proposed bill amending I.C. Section 32-603..

Judge Dennard reported that representative Thane (R. Emmett) met with Patti Tobiason and him. Rep. Thane appeared to appreciate their input and indicated that the bill would go nowhere. There is a new bill being introduced from Canyon County which seeks to add a Section to I.C. Section 32-719 re age. John and David will investigate. It was reported that there is an amendment to the Grandparent visitation being considered by the legislature. There is also a Name Change bill being considered.

Mary Hobson stated that the legislators can create study groups. Brenda Quick, a member of the Trust & Probate Section, told the meeting participants about the possibility of forming an LLC to lobby to get legislation passed. Linda Pall suggested drafting a letter to the Legislators telling them that we are available should our input be needed.

John Schroeder felt that he and David Hyde are capable of checking the list of legislative bills on a weekly basis to keep up to date on what is going on that might affect our Section.

CLE Committee: In April, 2009, CLE's regarding "Representing Children in Court" will be held in Pocatello (4/14), Boise (4/15) and Coeur d'Alene (4/16). The speakers from the ABA are paying their own way.

On July 9-10, 2009, Steve Severn will be speaking on the use of 1040 forms in discovery.

2. Mediation Project:

Application forms will go out today and applicants will be selected on a "first come, first served" basis. There will be a reception on the eve of the first day of the training (5/17). The training will be from 5/17 through 5/22.

3. Family Law Advocate Issue January, 2009:

Thanks were extended to all of the great contributors.

B. 1. Donation Request:

Mary Hobson requested a \$5,000.00 donation to "Soundstart," a program designed to assist low income families to understand how to access help in matters of divorce, custody, support, guardianships and adoptions. David Hyde inquired about other funders who might be willing to match donations. David requested a report of the effectiveness of this program in the community.

Linda Pall stated that the council would take this request up at the next meeting.

New Business

The May Meeting will be switched to May 27, 2009.

David Hyde expressed concern that our local rules may not be known to some attorneys who do not practice here in Ada County very often.

Respectfully submitted by Lois Fletcher