

MICHIGAN GUARDIANSHIP ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the Board of Directors
January 19, 2007
State of Michigan
Office of Services to the Aging
7109 West Saginaw
Lansing, MI

Board Members Present:

Suzanne Darling, Donna Erb, Diane Brown, Sr. Marie Kopin, Marcia Smith-Murphy, Michael Dombos, Carol Henny, Carol Winter, Georgia Callas (speaker phone), Dawn Jacobs (speaker phone) and Charlotte Bieri

Board Members Not Present:

Alicia Chapman (excused), Pat Fosdick (excused), Ron Lantz (excused), Neelam Puri (excused)

Consultant:

Barb Fisher

Call to Order:

Sue Darling, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve Agenda as presented.

Moved: Dawn Jacobs

Support: Donna Erb

Motion carried

Approval of Minutes of October 26, 2006:

Corrections noted: Donna Erb was excused, Sr. Marie Kopin was present

Motion to approve Minutes as corrected.

Moved: Carol Henny

Support: Dawn Jacobs

Motion carried

Treasurer's Report: Carol Henny

Financial Report of Video Amended dated September, 2006, Financial Report of Video dated January 1, 2007 and Financial Report dated December 31, 2006 were presented.

Motion: To approve Financial Report of Video Amended dated September, 2006, Financial Report of Video dated January 1, 2007 and Financial Report dated December 31, 2006.

Moved: Michael Dombos

Support: Donna Erb

Motion carried

Judge Mack is considering purchasing approximately 5,000 copies of the video. He is working with the Bar Association on purchase and will let us know. Prices may be different than originally planned.

Committee Reports

Education Committee: Barb Fisher

Review course and exam will be given at the spring conference.

Neelam is gathering panel members to speak on cultural diversity.

Entertainment at Shanty Creek – It is possible to hire a musician to play during dinner and after auction in bar area at a cost of \$300 - \$400.

Board members were reminded to bring auction items.

Registration fee is \$140 for members; \$190 for non-members; \$120 for family guardians. This is the same fee schedule as the last conference.

Shanty Creek area legislators will be invited to attend and give welcome.

Cherie will get list of legislators in area. Dawn will contact State Senator and State Representative.

Membership Committee: Barb Fisher

Barb presented an Administrator's Report. Membership certificates will be printed at the time of the brochure.

MG and RG exams can both be offered at the next conference. Barb will post information on MGA website to see if there is interest.

Barb suggested posting MGA phone number on website. Trak phone with voice mail is about \$100/month for 400 minutes. More minutes can be added at any time.

A motion had been made in July approving of Barb getting a phone. She will move forward with it.

Carol Henny will check on status of credit card for Barb previously approved.

Michael Dombos is working on Barb's contract

Legislation: Michael Dombos

Michael distributed an article "The Impact of an Aging Society on State Courts."

There are bills pending that would allow a family guardian to be reimbursed by the county. Guardians will be able to sign for cremation as of 10/1/07.

Michael will look into proper procedure for disposing of cremains.

Communications: Carol Winter

A letter will be prepared regarding sale of DVD.

Georgia was not able to obtain information with regard to large number of DVDs (possibly 400) at Macomb County Courthouse. Cherie will contact Don Housey at Macomb County Probate Court to try to get information. Donna has no email until further notice. In approximately two weeks, she will have a new fax number.

President's Report: Sue Darling

There are two grants that may be available from the American Bar Association. One is a 12-month grant of \$7,500 and the other is an 18-month grant of \$15,000. The application deadline is March 1, 2007.

Steve Burnham, Kalamazoo Probate Court Register, spoke about his experience in the use of grant funds. In the past money was awarded to assist elderly who were victims of financial exploitation, senior housing, pro-bono hospice, aging in place.

There was discussion with regard to producing a new video dealing with two topics, autonomy and end of life decisions.

Motion: To apply for grant to be used to produce a second video.
Moved: Carol Henny
Support: Diane Brown
Motion carried

There was discussion as to whether MGA would pay a portion of the cost to produce a second video.

Motion: To include in the grant application that MGA will put in \$5,000 toward producing a video.
Moved: Donna Erb
Support: Sue Darling

There was discussion regarding the use of funds received from vendors at the spring conference.

Motion: To apply any funds over \$8,000 received from vendors at the spring conference to enhance the MGA website.
Moved: Charlotte Bieri
Support: Sr. Marie Kopin

There was discussion regarding scholarships being given for attendance at the spring conference.

Motion: To give up to five scholarships for the spring conference. If more than five are needed, additional scholarships can be approved by the Executive Committee.
Moved: Carol Henny
Support: Sr. Marie Kopin

New Business:

It was reported by Sue Darling that John Wilson has decided not to put anything in the MGA newsletter.

Adjournment

There was a motion to adjourn.

Motion: Michael Dombos

Support: Diane Brown

Motion carried

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Winter