

Minutes from Survey Subcommittee Meeting of Feb.28, 2008

Present: Judge Barbara Bailey Jongbloed, Ms. Karen Florin, Patrick Sanders, Judge Carol Wolven.

Absent: Joseph D'Alesio, Paul Giguere

Agenda Item No. I: Judge Jongbloed welcomed members of the subcommittee and informed them that Scott Brede, who served as subcommittee chair, had left the CT Law Tribune and would need to be replaced on the subcommittee. Karen Florin volunteered to serve as co-chair. Judge Jongbloed responded that she would let Judicial-Media Committee co-chairs Judge Douglas Lavine and Claude Albert know of Karen's interest in the position, as they would be the ones who would appoint her.

Agenda Item No. II: The subcommittee unanimously approved the minutes from its meeting on Nov. 28, 2007.

Agenda Item No. III: The subcommittee previously volunteered to give the survey results a thorough review and come up with a set of recommendations, Judge Jongbloed said. Judge Wolven added that the recommendations seemed to fall into two categories: education and guidelines for court staff and media. She cited the similar themes that ran through the responses. Judge Jongbloed suggested the committee could focus on suggestions regarding education and mentioned the Judges Institute as one option, since it dovetails into the upcoming Law School for Journalists.

Other subjects that subcommittee members suggested for consideration were: how much a judge can say publicly if he/she is facing criticism; and what goes into decisions made by the news media. Karen Florin added that she thinks some of the editorial people at The Day would like to come and speak to the judges about that process. Judge Wolven added that this type of program would be perfect for the Judges Institute. Another forum, Judge Jongbloed said, would be the sessions held every fall for the different divisions, i.e. criminal, civil, family, juvenile.

The subcommittee decided that each member would develop recommendations for consideration and would discuss them at its next meeting.

Agenda Item No. IV: The subcommittee scheduled its next meeting for Monday, March 31, 2008.

Agenda Item No. V: The subcommittee adjourned its meeting at approximately 4 p.m.