

Events Subcommittee (of the Judicial-Media Committee)

Minutes of November 20, 2008

In attendance: Judge Susan Handy, Karen Florin, (subcommittee co-chairs); Claude Albert, Judge Douglas Lavine (co-chairs of the Judicial-Media Committee; Judge Robert Holzberg, Judge Michael Shay, Adriana Venegas, Dave Ward.

In attendance via speaker phone: Attorney Stan Twardy (subcommittee co-chair).

I. Call meeting to order

Judge Handy called the meeting to order. Ms. Florin updated the group on changes regarding the subcommittee's membership.

II. Approval of minutes

The subcommittee unanimously approved the minutes from its last meeting on March 4, 2008.

III. Begin discussing next event: "Journalism School for Judges"

Subcommittee members discussed the logistics of its next event, and agreed that it would be held on March 19, 2009. Members also agreed that it would be better for judges to hold the event in the afternoon, so that more may attend. In discussing a possible agenda, committee members reviewed the format that was used for the March 2008 "Law School for Journalists," which addressed different levels of experience and offered very candid observations and insights.

Subcommittee members offered various ideas of what judges might like to learn about: who makes editorial decisions, what goes into an article, who decides what the headline will be, etc. Other topics that could be addressed could include deadline issues, the differences between print and electronic media, and how those may or may not affect the decision-making process, and rules of engagement, i.e. what exactly does "off-the-record," "background," and "not for attribution" mean?

Subcommittee members agreed that a strong moderator is needed, and that the journalists on the subcommittee, through subcommittee co-chair Karen Florin (a reporter at The Day of New London) should select who's on the media panel.

Another meeting was scheduled for Dec. 18, 2008, to start pinning down the agenda, moderator, and speakers. Attorney Twardy said he would contact the CBA about possibly using its New Britain office for the event.

IV. Schedule next meeting

See above

V. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.