

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

February 8, 2017

Attendees: Judges Mahon, Wright, Berkenstock, Keeney, Brandt, DePanfilis, Magistrali, Randich, Marino, Purnell, Daly, Forgione, Streit-Kefalas, Lomme, Elkin, Fox, Schad and Probate Court Administrator Knierim.

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 9:46 a.m.
2. **Approval of the Minutes:**

Minutes from January 11, 2017 meeting approved.
3. **Correspondence:** None.
4. **Treasurer's Report:**

The only funds expended to date are for educational meetings. Report approved.
5. **Committee Reports:**
 - Continuing Education – Judge Becker

No report. The next CLE is scheduled for June 22, 2017. The next Judges Institute is scheduled for March 16, 2017.
 - Ethics – Judge Magistrali

The next meeting is set for February 10, 2017, and the committee plans to address Rule 3.8.
 - Legislative – Judge Fox and Judge Rowe

There are several bills before the Judiciary Committee from PCA and others regarding conservatorships. A bill regarding unions for court staff was raised but unsure of how far it will progress. A bill has also been raised to allow a judge who turns 70 while in office to allow the judge to complete the term.

Judge Keeney discussed his meeting with local legislators. Judge Knierim and Vin Russo attended the meeting and provided valuable input. They are willing to come to other gatherings to assist with information dissemination.
 - Nominating – Judge Marino

Judge Marino thanked Judge Purnell for presenting the slate of candidates to the Assembly.

As to the question raised at the last meeting whether a judge can maintain his seat on the Executive Committee if he retires, it appears from the by-laws that to serve on the Executive Committee, one must be a sitting judge. However, the Executive Committee can appoint an “acting” officer who does not have to be a sitting judge.
 - Planning – Judge Brandt

No report.
 - Procedures Review – Judge Berkenstock

The committee continues the work of revising forms.
 - Public Information – Judge Purnell

No report.

Ad Hoc Committees:

Hospitality – Judge Yamin

Judge Yamin reminded the judges of the upcoming NCPJ meeting in May, 2017.

6. Comments of the Probate Court Administrator – Judge Knierim

Judge Knierim reported that the governor's budget proposal is set to be released today. On February 22, 2017, he is scheduled to speak to the Appropriations Sub-Committee. There is also a public hearing that day and Judge Knierim encourages testimony or written submissions from any judges or staff.

Judge Knierim inquired if the recently imposed federal travel ban for citizens of specific countries has affected the courts at all. The consensus was that there has been no impact.

The Quinnipiac Law School is planning a symposium for the winter, 2018. It will be an academic program that considers what other states are doing within the probate system to alleviate administrative burdens on the public and then to consider how those measures can be implemented in Connecticut.

7. Comments of the President-Judge

No comments.

8. Other Business to come before the Executive Committee

None.

9. Adjournment:

A motion to adjourn was made.

Meeting adjourned at 10:29 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hon. Leah Schad
Recording Secretary