

MINUTES

Historical Society of the United States Courts in the Eighth Circuit

Executive Committee Conference Call

May 16, 2005

12:15 p.m.

Officers participating:

Hon. Richard G. Kopf, President

Frances Ross, Vice President

Ann Fessenden, Secretary

Sheila Greenbaum, Treasurer

Others participating:

Tom Boyd, Past-President

Hon. Richard Peterson, Past-President

Historical Society President Judge Kopf called the meeting to order at 12:15 p.m.

Preliminary Report on Chief Judges' Responses to Suggested Changes to Historical Society in Order to Comply with Ethics Advisory Opinion No. 104

Judge Kopf reported that Chief Judge Loken approves of the proposal to restructure the Historical Society's governance so as to comply with Ethics Advisory Opinion Number 104. Two positive and no negative responses have been received from District Chief Judges. Therefore, he feels that we can consider the proposal as approved by the Circuit Chief Judges. The Executive Committee agreed that Judge Kopf should draft appropriate bylaw changes and send to the Committee for review and comment.

The group also discussed whether to have a conference call meeting of the full Board to act on the bylaws amendments, or wait until a meeting at the Circuit Judicial Conference in October. It was determined to wait until October.

Scheduling Upcoming Meetings

Executive Committee Meeting - It was agreed that another Executive Committee Conference call meeting should be held before the Judicial Conference. Date and time chosen was **Monday, August 22 at 12:15 p.m.**

Board meeting at Judicial Conference – Judge Kopf asked Secretary Ann Fessenden to make arrangements with the Circuit Executive's Office for a meeting of the full board at the Circuit Judicial Conference in Colorado Springs, Oct. 19-21, 2005. It is not necessary to include lunch, and a day and time should be chosen that will allow for maximum attendance.

Nominating Committee - Since one of the activities at the Judicial Conference will need to be election of officers, Judge Kopf appointed a nominations committee consisting of Judge Peterson, Tom Boyd, and Ann Fessenden, with Ann Fessenden as Chair. The report of the committee is due by August 22. The Committee will need to develop a slate which includes President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and the new honorary office of Chairman of the Board (if bylaws amendments are approved.) Judge Kopf encouraged the Committee to try to find a Circuit Judge for the Chairman of the Board position.

Miscellaneous Ethics Compliance Issues - Judge Kopf mentioned that the Historical Society's website needs a disclaimer indicating that the Historical Society is not controlled or operated by the federal courts and also asked if the Society had a Post Office box address. (It does not, and the 8th Circuit Library's address is still being used.) Ann Fessenden will handle making both of those changes.

Judicial Conference -

Display. Ann Fessenden sought the Committee's input regarding some possible topics for an historical display at the Circuit Judicial Conference in July. She mentioned as possibilities the historic relationship of the 8th and the 10th Circuits, or the 20th anniversary of the 8th Circuit Historical Society. The Committee members liked these ideas and Judge Peterson also mentioned Justice Blackmun as another possibility because the author of a book about Justice Blackmun will be speaking at the Conference. He reminded Ann that the various branch societies should be notified so they can display materials if they wish to and also suggested that perhaps the Southern District of Iowa would still have copies of its 8th Circuit courthouses poster that could be offered for sale.

Newsletter. Ann invited the Committee members to suggest and/or author articles for the newsletter, which will be produced for distribution at the Conference. On an inquiry from Frances Ross, Tom Boyd reported that he hopes the revisions to Prof. Morris' new book on the history of the 8th Circuit will be completed soon, and he offered to write something about the upcoming book. Unfortunately it is not expected that the book will be published before the Conference.

Annual Reminder of Need to Preserve Judges' Papers - Judge Kopf will send an email reminder to all 8th Circuit Judges regarding the importance of preserving their papers.

Financial Status - Treasurer Sheila Greenbaum gave a brief report on the Historical Society's treasury. Current balance is \$13,990.25.

There being no other business, the conference call adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ann T. Fessenden, Secretary