

COMMISSION ON THE THOMAS J. MOYER OHIO JUDICIAL CENTER MINUTES

April 8, 2015
Supreme Court of Ohio

Members Present: Richard Simpson (Chair); Mick Ball (Vice Chair); Lane Beougher; Scott Gilliam; Mary Gray; Frank Melhorn; Barbara Powers

Others present: Andrea Kulikowski (Supreme Court); Craig Morrow (Supreme Court); Alan Ohman (Supreme Court); David Stebenne (Ohio State University); Mindi Wells (Supreme Court); Jay Wuehold (Supreme Court)

Mr. Simpson called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m.

The minutes of the June 3, 2014 meeting were approved by Mr. Ball and Mr. Beougher.

Messrs. Melhorn and Stebenne then provided the Commission with their concept for a series of articles, meetings, and work groups to invigorate interest in the legal history of Ohio. Mr. Melhorn stated that there is not much available history at this time, but that a series of activities could promote the development of such a history. He cited a similar work group led by Mr. Kermit L. Hall at Ohio State University, which allowed authors to critique others' historical writings. These writings later became the two-volume book "History of Ohio Law." Mr. Melhorn suggested that something similar could come from a modern work group.

Mr. Simpson noted that he felt such a work group would be consistent with the goals of the Commission.

Mr. Stebenne noted that the proposal was not meant to replace or otherwise compete with the current speaker series. Mr. Melhorn cited "Justice and Legal Change on the Shores of Lake Erie" as a good example of the historical account he and Mr. Stebenne envisioned would come from such a work group. Mr. Ball and Mr. Gilliam asked questions. Mr. Simpson asked that Messrs. Melhorn and Stebenne solidify their proposal and present it to the Commission before the next meeting. Ms. Powers cited the necessity to include financial implications in that proposal.

Mr. Simpson then brought up the identification of the Commission's objectives and goals for 2015. No major deviations from 2014 were suggested.

Mr. Simpson then brought the election of officers to the table. Ms. Wells cited the need for a Chair and a Vice Chair, as well as any additional offices the Commission saw fit to elect. Messrs. Simpson and Ball noted that their terms would expire at the end of 2015, and it was agreed that election of new officers would take place at the October 7 meeting, to take effect January 1, 2016.

Ms. Wells asked the Commission to consider potential nominees for the two current available at-large seats, as well as who would fill the future vacant seats created by the departures of Messrs. Simpson and Ball.

Mr. Wuehold then provided an update on transportation grants, the next "Forum on the Law," and the Educational Center. He noted that December 2015 is the 10th anniversary of the opening of the

Educational Center, which has been visited by over 105,000 people. He also mentioned that an original exhibit at the Educational Center regarding filesharing of music was in consideration of being removed due to its dated content. He then noted that the 15 volunteers who give their time to the Educational Center contributed 264 hours of time in 2014. Ms. Gray, Mr. Ball, Ms. Wells, and Mr. Melhorn asked questions.

Mr. Simpson then called committee reports to discussion.

Ms. Gray presented on the Fine Arts Committee. She explained that the Zanesville Museum of Art had exchanged two pieces it had loaned the Judicial Center, pictures of which were in the packet provided to meeting attendees. She mentioned that she had been in discussion with the Kennedy Museum of Art at Ohio University, and that pieces may be loaned from that Museum in 2016, when other loans expire at the Judicial Center. She also noted that the Ohio Channel had produced videos on county courthouses around the State and that those videos were available online.

Ms. Gray then moved that the Commission approve a request for funding from the Supreme Court's budget for \$10,000 GRF for the purpose of art acquisition. Mr. Beougher seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition.

Mr. Beougher presented on the Civic Education Committee. He and Mr. Simpson had nothing new to report. Ms. Wells noted that the October 7, 2015 meeting would be an ideal time to offer recommendations on speakers or topics for the 2016 "Forum on the Law."

Ms. Powers presented on the Architecture Committee. She provided follow-up information from the 2014 Courthouse Symposium, noting that a small work group was continuing to work on the idea of legislative funding as a source for historic county courthouse renovations. She cited a white paper by David Robinson of the Montrose Group that outlines funding options; the name of the white paper is "Addressing Economic Development Through Historic Preservation and Civic Infrastructure." Mr. Beougher mentioned the upcoming Capital Budget as a possibility for funding options. Ms. Powers noted that the work group has suggested a needs assessment to help legislators understand what is involved with renovations.

Ms. Wells then presented proposed renovations of the Judicial Center's second, seventh, and eleventh floors. Mr. Ball, Mr. Simpson, Mr. Melhorn, Ms. Powers, and Mr. Beougher asked questions. Mr. Simpson moved that the Commission give its approval for the renovations. Mr. Ball seconded the motion. The motion passed with no opposition.

Having no additional matters before it, the Commission adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

The next meeting of the Commission will be October 7, 2015.