

For our members' information, we are attaching a brief description of a recent informal meeting of members of the Board of Directors held on January 14, 2003. Although these topics are under consideration, the Board has not yet acted on them.

Association of the Bar of the
United States Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit

Minutes of the Inaugural Meeting

January 14, 2003

4:00 p.m.

Eagleton United States Courthouse

St. Louis, Missouri

Welcome and introduction: Eric Magnuson

Eric gave a brief history of the efforts to organize the Association, noting the meeting in September 2002 of those interested, and the incorporation of the Association. He passed a list of those who have expressed an interest in the Association and introduced those who have been involved in its initial organization. He noted that the meeting was being recorded and would be available on the internet.

Report on incorporation: Terry Schackmann

Terry reported on the status of incorporation, and gave some background about the origins of the corporate form and documents. They are adapted from the Fifth Circuit model, but modified to fit Missouri corporate law.

Report on Eighth Circuit Appellate Practice Institute: Jim Layton

Jim explained that the University of Arkansas-Little Rock has for some years held this Institute in Little Rock. Based on discussions at the September preliminary meeting, we have agreed to co-sponsor the Institute this year. It will be held on April 15 at the St. Louis Marriot Pavilion, near the Eagleton Courthouse. The hotel has given UALR at \$79/night room rate, and UALR expects the charge for the seminar to be in the \$150-175 range. The proposed program for the 2003 seminar will feature various members of the Court's staff, along with practitioners and academics.

Discussion of committees:

Eric proposed that we immediately establish four committees:

- Membership, responsible for initiating the mechanics (forms, dues, etc.) of membership, then implementing ways to enlarge the membership of the Association.
- Programs, responsible for CLE and other programming.
- Communications, responsible for newsletters and other methods of communicating 8th Circuit news, perhaps including decisions. Eric proposed that the communications be entirely electronic to keep costs of the Association low.
- Liaison, which would identify and work with state, regional, and other bar associations on common interests.

Those present suggested a committee that would focus on criminal practice, and that programming include substantive areas of federal law. Eric then asked the group to sign up for committees.

Nominating committee: Dennis Owens

Dennis provided a list of proposed initial officers of the Association, which are listed on the web site.

We then adjourned to a reception, where Judges Bowman and Morris Arnold joined us.