



Maryland Attorney General's COVID-19 Access to Justice Task Force

MINUTES

Life & Health Planning Committee

September 15, 2020 Meeting

Item	Subject	Time Allotted	Notes
1.	Call to Order, Introductions and Approval of Agenda	5 minutes - JB	<p>Committee Co-Chair Juliana Bell welcomed everyone to the Access to Justice Task Force's Life and Health Planning Committee meeting.</p> <p>Juliana asked if there were any proposed changes to the agenda. *Julie moved up Angus's discussion after the meeting minutes discussion.</p> <p>Attendees present at the beginning of the meeting included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Committee Co-Chair Juliana Bell, Assistant Attorney General• Committee Co-Chair Danielle Cruttenden, Private Attorney• Josie Yuzuik, Assistant Attorney General• Paul Ballard, Assistant Attorney General• Angus Derbyshire, Maryland Legal Aid pro bono coordinator• Brenda Gruss, Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Appeals Division• Morris Klein, outgoing chair, MSBA Elder Law; Disability Rights Section• Ron Landsman, Elder law attorney• Shelby McCloskey, law clerk, University of Maryland Law

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Margaret Henn, Director, program management, Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service (MVLS) ● Del. Terry Hill, Gov't Ops. Subcommittee, practicing physician ● Viola Woolums, Director, Senior Legal Services, Baltimore City ● Tim Chance, Tangled Title Staff Attorney, Maryland Volunteer Lawyers Service (MVLS) ● Rexanah Wyse, Chief of Staff, U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness ● Allison Harris, Home Preservation Project Director, Pro Bono Resource Center of Maryland ● Roberto Veloso, Private Practice ● C.P. Hoffman, Legal Director, FreeState Justice ● Victoria Heyliger, Co-Chair, Howard County Estates & Trusts Section, private practice attorney ● Jane Krienke, Legislative Analyst, Maryland Hospital Association ● Jessica Quincosa, Executive director of community legal services ● Karren Pope-Onwukwe, Attorney, Law Offices of Karen Pope-Onwukwe, LLC ● Anne Coventry, Incoming Chair, MSBA Estates & Trusts Section ● Trudy Hanson, Public Health Program Director, The University of Maryland Center for Health and Homeland Security (CHHS) <p>Julie explained to the Committee members that we drafted and submitted our preliminary legislative recommendations, which will be discussed during the Task Force meeting on Thursday. She emphasized that these recommendations are not final, but included all potential recommendations in order to get feedback from the Task Force. Shelby will send those preliminary recommendations in the chat during this meeting. Julie stated that the Committee members will have the opportunity to discuss them in a later meeting.</p>
2.	Review of 2020.09.01 Life & Health Planning Committee Meeting Minutes	5 minutes - JB	Julie asked if anyone had changes to the minutes. **No changes were made.

3.	Update from liaison to Pro Bono and Reduced Fee Legal Services Committee	5 minutes - AG	<p>Julie invited Angus Derbyshire, the liaison to the Pro Bono and Reduced Legal Services, to provide an update on what he had been working on.</p> <p>Angus reminded everyone of the survey he sent out a few weeks ago that asked each organization to send him the number of additional pro bono attorneys they needed. He stated that he received some feedback from several organizations, but stated that if anyone else needed additional attorneys that they can still submit them.</p>
4.	Update on the Community Outreach Listening Session Event	20 minutes - JY	<p>Julie invited Josie to provide an update from the Community Outreach Subcommittee.</p> <p>Josie explained that the Subcommittee is hosting a listening session to get feedback from the public and providers.</p> <p>Josie stated that Amy Petkovsek has agreed to moderate the listening session, which will be held on September 29th at 3 p.m (English) and 4:30 p.m. (Spanish). Roberto Veloso will be moderating the Spanish listening session.</p> <p>Josie asked the Committee members to aid in this Outreach event by publicizing the event by sending out a flyer to their networks. Josie asked everyone to keep a look out for the flyer, which will be sent out soon.</p> <p>The participants will be able to see the moderator and panelists. They will be muted and unmuted and will also have access to the Access to Justice Task Force Attorney General's email. The email will be another opportunity to provide feedback if they didn't get a turn or if they were perhaps cut off. They may also share this email with family or friends who maybe could not attend but do have a story to tell. The participants will be instructed to use the subject line Life and Health Planning Listening Session.</p>

			<p>Josie explained that we are still working on the agenda and scripts. We will be utilizing the questions we came up with during the July 28th Community Outreach Subcommittee meeting.</p> <p>Josie emphasized that we are trying to get feedback on what individuals have experienced when it comes to life and help planning and any barriers that we might be missing.</p> <p>When publicizing the event, we will need help from medical health providers, legal services providers, the providers to Patient Advocates, and the healthcare community as a whole.</p> <p>The Policy & Race Equity Committee (PACE) will be helping to finalize this flyer and to advertise the event. Josie thanked Brenda for all her help with working with the PACE Committee to make this possible.</p> <p>Julie asked Josie to speak on BUILD's (Baltimoreans United in Leadership Development's) and Esperanza Center's involvement in the listening session. Josie explained that Amy Petkovsek has been communicating with these organizations directly. She explained that BUILD was on the dry run call we had the other day. They expressed their interest in the subject area and understanding of its importance. Josie explained that BUILD and Esperanza will be helping with publicizing the event.</p> <p>Julie thanked everyone who has been working on this event. She stated that the Task Force will be holding the life and health planning Town Hall on October 21st, which will focus more on providing the public with information on life and health planning.</p>
5.	Update from the Resource Development Subcommittee	5 minutes – DC, PB	<p>Julie invited Danielle to provide an update from the Resource Development Subcommittee. Danielle explained that the Subcommittee has completed its resource directory a little while back and is currently focusing on completing a handbook. The Handbook is intended to provide information and educate the public on the various types of life and health</p>

			<p>and estate planning documents and also describe what the probate process is and how nonprobate transfers can work. The Subcommittee hopes to complete the Handbook over the next week. The Communications Committee will be reviewing the Handbook to make it more understandable. The Subcommittee hopes to have this completed by the October 21st Town Hall.</p> <p>Danielle stated that the Subcommittee will need volunteers to present this information, which will likely be discussed during the Resource Development Subcommittee meeting tomorrow. She explained that we are in need of Spanish-speaking attorneys in the Estates and trusts field to assist in the Town Hall at 4 p.m. (Spanish). She asked Roberto if he or anyone he knew that are fluent in Spanish would be willing to help during the Town Hall.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Roberto explained that he would be glad to help during the Town Hall, but that he is not an Estates and Trusts Attorney. He suggested that we reach out to Jessica Q offline to assist in recruitment. ● Jessica stated that she will reach out to the Hispanic Bar Association. ● Daniele will reach out to an estate and trusts attorney in Annapolis: Elsa Smith <p>The PACE Committee has circulated a simple form containing information necessary for it to publicize the September 29th Listening Session and the October 21, 2020 Town Hall. The Resource Development Committee will identify subject matter expert speakers for the Town Hall and fill out the form; Josie and Brenda will collaborate to fill out the form for the Listening Sessions.</p>
6.	<u>Public Comment Period</u>	5 minutes- JB	Margaret raised the concern of the budget cut from The Maryland Legal Services Corporation. This reduction will limit what the pro bono staff can do. The MLSC was reaching out to the Attorney General's office to request some support from the state. She asked if this Committee will be making a recommendation to the legislature to support reducing the funding gap.

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Julie explained that another Committee has asked for funds from the Cares Act relating to these budget cuts. <p>Jane Krienke thanked the Committee for having its meetings open and offered to share any information the Committee needed to her networks. **No additional Comments were made from the Public</p>
7.	Set Next Meeting Time and Date and Adjourn	5 minutes - JB	<p>Julie thanked everyone for joining and stated that the next full-committee meeting would be two weeks from today at 9am.</p> <p>Julie invited the Committee Members to reach out to Shelby if they wished to participate in the Community Outreach Subcommittee meetings on Tuesdays at 9am (biweekly) and/or the Resource Development Subcommittee meetings on Wednesdays at 11a.m.</p>

Guide:

- AD = Angus Derbyshire, Liaison to Pro Bono and Reduced Fee Legal Services Committee**
BG = Brenda Gruss, Liaison to Public Awareness and Community Engagement Committee
DC = Danielle Cruttenden, Co-Chair
JB = Juliana Bell, Co-Chair
JY = Josie Yuzuik, Community Outreach Subcommittee Facilitator
PB = Paul Ballard, Resource Development Subcommittee Facilitator