

June 2, 2014

To: North Dakota Association of Realtors

I'm not sure why, but I felt these were the best business meetings I have been to in several years. Lots of good information. My 2 committees are Professional Standards and the Broker Involvement Council. I will report on those 2.

Professional standards:

We got a sneak preview of the new code of ethics training update that will be available this summer and fall. The summer training will be non ce, but ready by fall will include ce hours. The original training program is 12 years old, so definitely needed to be updated.

Voted to allow, or I should say added language to sections 18 and 20, initiating an ethics hearing, that the panel chairperson has the authority to have a pre hearing, which means getting panel members together right before the hearing to determine that the matter before them is arbitrable. This motion passed and will be sent to the BOD.

Then, we listened to Virginia and California talk about their newer programs which involves "citations". If someone forgets to put in variable commission, instead of going to a full hearing, individual could get a citation, and agree to pay the citation or go to full hearing,

Discussion took place about publishing the name of code of ethics violators. Currently California has a pilot program in place and will be giving NAR data for the next 2 years. The motion to receive data for the next 2 years from California, and shared with the committee was moved and approved.

We were asked to clarify the definition of probation- cleaned up, moved, and approved.

Ongoing unethical conduct - section 14 changed to allow additional discipline.

Example, if panel says you must quit lying, and you don't, then this will happen to you. It saves not having to go thru another whole hearing.

Broker involvement council:

We listened to a legislative update, which I know our FPC's will report on. Then, we went thru the realtor action mobile site- have you all who are reading this, downloaded the app?????

Then, we were informed that President Brown wants to see this committee change its format, and become 25% political and 75% about helping Brokers, more like Brokers coming together and exchanging best practices, etc. I thought this was a great thought for NAR and am happy to have the opportunity to be part of it. You may want to rethink, however, sending someone to this meeting in August. I would be glad to attend on behalf of NDAR, but I feel it may be more individualistic and I should pay as a Broker if I want to attend. I will leave that to the board to decide.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to attend what I will probably always refer to as the Mid-Winter meetings.

Respectfully,

Barbara A. Grande, Broker, Coldwell Banker First Realty