



MINUTES HIPLA BOARD MEETING NOVEMBER 13, 2007

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HIPLA Liaison to National IP Associations

PATRICIA MEIER, CONOCOPHILLIPS
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Those in attendance –

Paul Morico
Marcella Watkins
Stephen Koch
Anthony Matheny
Jennifer Adamson
Michael Locklar
Randy Furlong
Pam McCollough
Georgianna Witt
Jeffrey Johnson
Patty Meier
Steve Spears
Shawn Foster

1. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Jennifer Adamson moved for approval of the Minutes. Georgianna Witt seconded. All were in favor.

2. Treasurer's Report

Jennifer Adamson reported Jim Hruzek informed her that there is no specific limit as to how much money HIPLA can have on hand and still be considered a non-profit corporation as long as HIPLA continues to fulfill its objectives as a non-profit. Jennifer also reported that HIPLA's current account balance is approximately \$284,842; however, there are approximately \$40,000 of expenses for the Fall Institute and HIPLA has not yet provided UH with its share of the proceeds from the Fall Institute.

3. Committee Reports

a. Long Range Planning – Steve Koch

Steve reported that the Long Range Planning committee is in the process of prioritizing a list of proposals and plans to meet again prior to the January,

2008 Board meeting. At that time, Steve hopes to present the prioritized list of proposals to the Board for its consideration.

b. Website Overhaul – Anthony Matheny

Anthony reported that the website overhaul had gained speed and the hope was that it would be completed for final review within the next month or so. Anthony also reported that information was still need before HIPLA could file applications for federal service mark registration of the HIPLA mark and the new Logo. It was agreed that the first use date for HIPLA would be “at least as early as 1996” and that we would wait to file the application for the Logo until such time as the new website is operational. Additionally, HIPLA’s address of the applications would be the one in HIPLA’s organizational documents, i.e., the UH address.

c. Law School Scholarship Fund – Steven Spears

Steven reported that UH and South Texas provided scholarship proposals for consideration of the Board. TSU informed Steven that it would adopt whichever proposal from UH or South Texas that was deemed acceptable by the Board. The proposals were discussed and Steven was asked by the Board to continue to work with the schools to finalize the proposals.

d. Meeting Arrangements/Program – Shawn Foster

Shawn reported he was trying to line up a speaker on European IP law for the January, 2008 luncheon and a UT economics professor speaking to the membership regarding the “economics of IP” in February, 2008. The Board noted that HIPLA probably should not have a luncheon in February due to the Judges’ Dinner. Additionally, Shawn reported that the UT economics professor’s expenses in attending the luncheon would be paid by CRA. While this fact was acceptable to the Board, Paul asked Shawn to confirm that the UT economics professor is not affiliated with (or works for) CRA. Also, the issue of advertising by CRA at the luncheon could be a problem. Shawn said that he would investigate further regarding the professor’s connection to CRA and report back to the Board at the next meeting. It was noted, however, that assuming CRA understands that limited, if any, advertising of the company will be allowed by HIPLA at the luncheon, then having the UT economics professor speak at a luncheon other than in February, 2008, would be acceptable to the Board.

Shawn also noted that that the annual meeting is in March, the luncheon for the Science Fair winners is in April, and the luncheon for the Inventor of the Year is in May.

Shawn also identified another possible speaker for later in 2008. This speaker's topic would be on brand confusion and how to establish evidence of confusion. The Board agreed that a speaker on a trademark topic would be good. Shawn said that he will try to get CLE credit approved

e. Judges Dinner – Marcella Watkins

Marcella reported that the Judges Dinner was on track, that the "Save the Date" cards had been sent to the judges, and arrangements were being made with the Marshall Service as well.

f. National IP Associations – Patty Meier

Patty was unable to attend the Annual AIPLA meeting, but reports that the IP Associations Committee is working toward fulfilling some of their goals, but having issues regarding their website.

g. Pro Bono – Paul Morico

Paul asked the Board for ideas regarding how HIPLA could provide Pro Bono or similar community service. Patty Meier suggested HIPLA participate in HBA's Legal Lines or with the Intake Program. Anthony Matheny noted that some organizations out of Atlanta and possibly Austin work with local bands on copyright issues and, in fact, the HVLP sometimes has IP issues arise. Michael Locklar suggested more involvement with local schools, including the possibility of extending the Science Fair to middle schools. Paul suggested that an ad hoc committee be formed to further explore the possibilities. Patty, Michael, Georgianna Witt, and Anthony agreed to serve on this ad hoc committee and would report their findings at a future Board meeting.

4. Next Board Meeting

The next Board meeting will be held December 11, 2007, at 5:00 pm.

5. New Business

Science Fair – Georgianna Witt

Georgianna proposed that HIPLA increase its commitment to the Science Fair from \$1,000 to \$2,000 and to increase the prize money award to the winning student(s) from \$500 to \$1,000 per student. It was also discussed whether the best use of the money would be for a single winner or possibly breaking up the prize money into a first and second place awards. The Board stated that Georgianna could have discretion on this decision. Anthony Matheny

moved to approve the increase monetary commitments. Randy Furlong seconded. All were in favor.

6. Old Business

None

7. On motion by Randy Furlong, seconded by Georgianna Witt, the Meeting adjourned at 6:15 pm.