



MINUTES
HIPLA BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 11, 2007

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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
Natalie Wright
Steve Spears
Chris Shield
Sharon Israel
Howard Speight

1. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Steve Koch moved for approval of the Minutes. Randy Furlong seconded. All were in favor.

2. Treasurer's Report

Jennifer Adamson reported that HIPLA has approximately \$241,492.00 on hand; however, HIPLA still owes UH approximately \$40,000 - \$50,000 for the 2007 Fall Institute.

3. Committee Reports

a. Website Overhaul – Chris Shield

Chris reported that the website is almost ready for launch and will likely go live within the next few days. Chris asked that the Committee Chairs and the Board review the website, and in particular the pages relevant to their committees, and report any changes to him.

b. Law School Scholarship Fund – Steven Spears

Steven reported that everything is in place at UH and South Texas. UH and South Texas will vet out the candidates and provide a list of proposed recipients of the scholarships from those schools to the Board in March, 2008. Steven will take the application generated by UH or South Texas and provide it to TSU so that it can use the same application. Steven and the committee will select the finalists from TSU (as opposed to TSU vetting the candidates itself). The Committee's recommendations will then be provided to the Board.

c. Judges Dinner – Marcella Watkins

Marcella reported that the Judges Dinner was on schedule and that invitations to the judges will go out soon.

d. Pro Bono – Paul Morico for Patty Meier, Michael Locklar

Paul reported that Patty had a couple of ideas. One is to give talks to students regarding IP rights, especially copyright laws. The other is to include a copyright primer on the HIPLA website. Michael Locklar reported that the ad hoc committee had not yet met and that we hope to have more for the January Board meeting.

e. Amicus Briefs – Michael Locklar for Sharon Israel

Michael reported that there is a design patent case regarding the point of novelty test for infringement determinations. The committee is looking into filing a brief. Valerie Friedrich is heading up the effort to draft a brief for the Board to review and consider.

4. Next Board Meeting

The next Board meeting will be held January 15, 2008, at 5:00 pm.

5. New Business

a. EPO Liaison – Howard Speight

Howard reported that the EPO Liaison Counsel meeting lasted all day. Most of the attendees knew each other and their long term agendas so the meeting was a great learning experience for HIPLA. The President of the EPO attended and informed attendees that the EPO would be drastically increasing filing fees because revenue from maintenance fees has dropped considerably over the past years. Howard noted that the speakers were very good and a lot

of information was exchanged, but no real progress can be made from the meeting. Howard believes that HIPLA should continue to participate. Howard also provided Paul Morico with a written report of the meeting. Paul advised the Board that he would send a copy of Howard's report for the Board's review. The report will also be posted on the HIPLA website.

b. JPO Liaison – Paul Morico

Paul reported that John Osha provided him with a written report of the JPO Liaison Council Meeting and that Paul would send a copy to the Board. The report will also be posted on the HIPLA website.

c. AIPLA Spring Meeting (Houston) – Sharon Israel

Sharon reported that the AIPLA Spring Meeting will be held in Houston at the Intercontinental Hotel on May 14-16, 2007. The State Bar of Texas IP Section and UH are interested in co-sponsoring the opening night dessert reception. Sharon asked whether HIPLA would also like to co-sponsor this reception. Marcella Watkins moved that HIPLA co-sponsor the reception in an amount determined by the difference between the cost of the reception and the amount paid by the State Bar of Texas IP Section, with UH and HIPLA splitting this difference. Georgianna Witt seconded the motion. All were in favor.

d. December Luncheon – Paul Morico

Paul requested input from the Board as to some of the things HIPLA has done this year so that he can report those items to the membership at the December Luncheon. Items include: (1) increasing the budget for the Science Fair; (2) Establishing the scholarship program; (3) redesign of the logo and the website; (4) amicus committee extremely busy; and (5) Fall Institute had record attendance.

e. 2010 Federal Judges Dinner – Marcella Watkins

Marcella reported that Paul Janicke contacted her to gauge HIPLA's interest in moving the 2010 Federal Judges Dinner from February, 2010 to November, 2009 to accommodate potential special guests. Paul requested HIPLA to commit to the dinner and an afternoon seminar. The dinner would likely be held on a Tuesday night and the seminar on Wednesday afternoon. Georgianna Witt moved that HIPLA agree to participate with the dinner and seminar. Anthony Matheny seconded. All were in favor. Marcella Watkins and Steve Koch will coordinate with Paul Janicke to set everything up.

f. Science Fair – Georgianna Witt

Georgianna proposed that HIPLA increase its commitment to the Science Fair from \$2,000 to \$4,000. Georgianna informed the Board that the extra money goes to scholarships, the cost of the George R. Brown convention center for the Fair, and other promotions of the Fair. Natalie Wright moved to increase the budget as requested by Georgianna. Randy Furlong seconded. All were in favor.

6. Old Business

None

7. On motion by Marcella Watkins, seconded by Georgianna Witt, the Meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm.