



HIPLA Board Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2011

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In Attendance:

Al Riddle
Anthony Matheny
Michael Locklar
Howard Speight
Stephen Koch
Ted Ro
Elizabeth King
Jennifer Carnahan
Charles Walker
Chris Sheild
Keena Taylor
Nathan Dunn
Luke Culpepper
Bryan Adams
*all attended by telephone

1. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Al Riddle called the meeting to order. Steve Koch moved, with Ted Ro seconding, for approval of the minutes for the December meeting. All approved.

2. Treasurer's Report

Joe Beauchamp provided the following report by email:

As of December 31, 2010 we had a balance of \$198,653.57. Major upcoming expenditures this fiscal year that are not reflected in this balance are: (1) checks cut this week for \$27,000 for scholarship recipients; (2) UH Law Center's share of the Fall Institute profit, estimated to be approximately \$27,000; and (3) expenditures for the Judge's dinner (I've estimated that expenses will exceed income for this event by approximately \$8000).

We discussed at the last meeting whether HIPLA's balance has been rising or falling over the years. I pulled the balances from the April statements for the past five years. As of March 31 for each of the past five years, HIPLA had the following balance in its account:

2006 - \$175,657

2007 - \$230,775

2008 - \$159,653

2009 - \$125,368

2010 - \$152,627

2011 - \$135,000 (estimated)

Note that we had a bump in the 2010 balance due to the profit made from the Judge's dinner in November 2009. I'm unsure why the 2007 balance was so high. I can follow up if the Board has interest. I expect the balance as of March 31, 2011 to be approximately \$135,000.

A discussion was held as to the desired balance in the bank account. According to one board member, it is desirable for non-profits to maintain an average bank account balance of one year's worth of expenditures. Joe Beauchamp will be asked to provide an estimate of the 2010 expenses at the next meeting. Joe was also to confirm the "rule of thumb" with Conklin Hruzek.

3. Old Business

Scholarships

Bryan Adams reported that the Scholarship Committee has agreed on the 9 scholarship recipients and have sent out letters to the recipients. Checks to the recipients will be mailed soon. The recipients will be invited to the Judge's Dinner. Bryan will send Anthony Matheny a list of the recipients and they will be mentioned at the Judge's Dinner.

Fall Institute/Survey

Al Riddle distributed and discussed a PowerPoint presentation regarding the Fall Institute Location Survey. A discussion was held as to whether moving the Fall Institute to Houston should be investigated bearing in mind that Houston venues may be more expensive than Galveston venues because HIPLA will not be able to guarantee a large number of overnight guests, which means that the Houston venues may not guarantee a date. It was reported that the total cost of the Omni for the 2008 Fall Institute was around \$45,000, not including the Friday night dinner.

This topic will be discussed at the next meeting. A discussion ensued regarding how the survey results should be reported to the members. It was decided that the survey results would be posted on the web page and an email would be sent to the membership indicating that the results are posted. This will be done in conjunction with distribution of the proposed By-law amendments.

In addition a task force of Al Riddle, Stephen Koch, Betsy King, Jennifer Carnahan and Carey Jordan will investigate Houston options for The Institute.

50 Year Anniversary

Consideration is being given to devoting the April 2011 meeting to HIPLAs' 50th Anniversary. 3B is interested in doing most of the production almost at cost. Paul Janicke is willing to do a perspective. Other content of the meeting (i.e., should we have one former president per decade speak, which former presidents should be interviewed, etc.) was discussed. Al Riddle will propose a draft list of presidents to interview for a video to be shown at the meeting. He will also distribute a small list of questions that will be posed to each president to be interviewed.

Bylaws

Al Riddle reported that he had all the input needed for the revision to the bylaws. It was decided not to include paralegals as HIPLA members. The updated bylaws will be sent to the membership immediately after the Judge's Dinner and a vote on the bylaws will be held in March.

Giles Rich Moot Court

Chris Shield reported that the Giles Rich Moot Court competition will occur over the period from March 11-17, 2011. Seven teams from four law schools have signed up for the competition. A request has been sent to the Federal Court to be allowed to use the courts for the competition. A venue for the reception is being considered.

Inventor of the Year

The Inventor of the Year Award will be awarded at the June luncheon. The requests for nominations are usually sent in February and the selection is usually made in mid-May. Keena Taylor is looking for ways to incentivize nominations.

Spring Social Event

Luke Culpepper reported that a spring social event is being planned for April. Locations were discussed. One board member questioned whether a spring event is needed in light of the golf tournament in May. Another board member observed that not all HIPLA members play golf.

Science Fair

The Science Fair has asked for a donation of \$5000. Other sponsorship levels are available. A decision on the amount to

donate was deferred to a future meeting. Nathan Dunn will make a proposal after consulting with Georgiana Witt.

Luncheons

There will be no luncheon in February. March lunch is March 24.

Judge's Dinner

Anthony Matheny reported that ten judges have confirmed they will attend. Eight sponsors have been identified. Seven individuals have registered. A total of about 71 people have said they will attend so far.

Amicus Brief

HIPLA will not file an amicus brief on the Microsoft-i4i Supreme Court case. No one could be found to write the brief because of conflicts and general busyness.

4. New Business

None.

5. Next Board Meeting Date

The next Board meetings will be February 17 (note new date), and March 8.

6. Adjournment

Steve Koch moved for adjournment and Anthony Matheny seconded. All approved and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Howard L. Speight, Secretary