



HIPLA Board Meeting Minutes March 23, 2009

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In Attendance:

Marcella Watkins
Steve Koch
Mike Locklar
Paul Morico
Steven Spears
Al Riddle
Carey Jordan
Randy Furlong
Chris Shields
Georgiana Witt
Joe Beauchamp
Natalie Wright
Shawn Foster

1. Approval of Minutes of previous meeting
Koch moved, Jordan seconded. Approved.

2. Treasurer's Report
As of the end of February, 2009, HIPLA has \$153,176.70 in its account. HIPLA will pay the University of Houston \$14,923.25 this month as its share of the revenue from the 2008 Fall Institute. HIPLA will also pay about \$2,500 for hosting the Giles Rich Moot Court reception.

3. Old Business – Federal Circuit's November Panels in Houston.
Steve Koch reported the following regarding planning for this event.

- The title for the November 4 seminar is "Patent Litigation: The Crossroad Issues." The seminar will be from 1-5 at the Houstonian.
- 6-9 Federal Circuit judges will be attending and will be asked to speak at the seminar. In addition, Dr. Janicke and a professor from two other Texas law schools will be

speaking. HIPLA will also be considering two local practitioners to join as presenters.

- Steve Koch will be talking to other bar organizations who have hosted similar events for the Federal Circuit for suggestions.

4. New business – Amicus Brief in Cardiac Pacemakers

The Amicus Committee reported that it could not reach a consensus on the issues raised by this en banc appeal regarding whether 35 U.S.C. § 271(f) applies to method claims. The board likewise had no consensus on the issue and will leave it for the committee to determine whether an amicus brief should be filed.

5. Gratitude

The board expressed its immense gratitude to Shawn Foster for his outstanding job in organizing the HIPLA lunches. Vidya Bala will be replacing Shawn as chair of the HIPLA Meeting Arrangements and Programs Committee.

6. Next Board Meeting: No date and location were set for this.