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HIPLA Board Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2010

In Attendance:

Al Riddle*
Anthony Matheny *
Michael Locklar
Joe Beauchamp
Howard Speight*
Stephen Koch*
Shawn Foster
Elizabeth King
Charles Walker*
Georgianna Braden
Luke Culpepper
*in person, the rest by phone

1. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Al Riddle called the meeting to order. Charles Walker moved, with Stephen Koch seconding, to approve the meeting minutes from the September 2010 meeting, with the revision that the references to the “holiday dinner” on the second page should be changed to the “holiday luncheon.” All approved.

2. Treasurer’s Report

Joe Beauchamp reported that as of the end of September 2010, the HIPLA account had a balance of approximately \$255,000. The amount reflects the revenues from the fall institute. So far, Institute revenues have been about \$125,000 and expenses have been about \$70,000. Additional Institute expenses are expected.

3. Old Business

- *Membership*

As of the meeting, membership was at 510, up from 492 in September and 430 in August. Al Riddle noted that the membership is about the same as it was last year at this time.

- Fall Institute Recap

Al Riddle expressed appreciation to Georgianna Braden for her work on the Fall Institute and thanked her and her assistant for her efforts.

Reports from the Institute were good. Reviews indicated that the speakers and the food were well received. Judge Gajarsa and Judge Hoyt made positive comments. All speakers attended.

The results of the survey conducted at this Institute indicate that most attendees prefer staying in Galveston. About half prefer staying in Galveston. 25 percent prefer alternating between Galveston and Houston. 15-20 percent prefer Houston. A small number of attendees suggested other venues. Most of the responders were more interested in the speakers and the topics than in the venue, although there was an interest in attending in a location where they could go and stay overnight.

Ron Derrington is working on a survey to send to current and former HIPLA members who did not attend the 2010 Fall Institute concerning their Institute location preferences.

- Luncheons

The holiday luncheon will be at Brennans, which has a room that will accommodate the crowd. Matt Reeves has identified a musical group. Unfortunately, the holiday luncheon will occur on the same day as the Baker Botts lecture, but that was a product of the busy holiday schedule.

- Scholarships

The committee has received some, but not all of the applications. They should all be in by the end of October. The committee will then finalize the recommended recipients.

- Fall Activity

The Fall Activity will be at St. Arnold's on November 15, 2010 from 6-8 p.m. Fortune Personnel Consultants has agreed to sponsor. The cost will be \$800 for beer, root beer and a bar tender. The sponsor also agreed to provide food.

A \$500 deposit has been paid. The deposit will be returned unless attendance exceeds 150, at which point the rate will go up.

It was decided that there would be no registration list for this event.

An announcement will go out in the next few days. The announcement will also be forwarded to the law schools.

- Judge's Dinner

Preparation for the Judge's Dinner is continuing. A contract with the Four Seasons has been signed and the deposit has been paid. A speaker has not yet been selected.

- By-Laws Update

Al Riddle reported that he has a red-line of the bylaws that he will distribute to the Board for input. His goal is to discuss the revisions at the November meeting, get approval of the Board at the December meeting and have the membership vote on the changes at the January luncheon.

4. New Business

- Website Updates

Al Riddle reported that a communications committee page will be added.

- Visitors from other countries

Al Riddle, Charles Walker, Elizabeth King, and Joe Beauchamp met with visitors from Ethiopia, the Republic of Niger, Pakistan, and Indonesia and had a good discussion regarding the role of HIPLA. The visitors were fascinated by a number of HIPLA activities, including the Judge's Dinner.

- 50th Anniversary

The fiftieth anniversary of HIPLA will occur in 2011. The Board will begin discussing how to celebrate this occasion.

5. Next Board Meeting Date

The next Board meeting will be held on November 16. The December holiday Board meeting will be on December 20.

6. Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

Howard L. Speight, Secretary