



**HIPLA**  
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# HOUSTON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW ASSOCIATION

## MINUTES HIPLA BOARD MEETING JUNE 26, 2007

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Those in attendance –

Paul Morico  
Marcella Watkins  
Stephen Koch  
Anthony Matheny  
Jennifer Adamson  
Jeffrey Johnson  
Pam McCollough  
Georgianna Witt  
Natalie Wright  
Steve Spears  
Greg Vetter  
Chris Shield

1. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Steve Koch moved to approve the minutes. Marcella Watkins seconded. All were in favor.

2. Treasurer's Report

Jennifer Adamson reported that Conklin had not provided a monthly report. In light of the amount of money in HIPLA's account, the issue of whether there were any tax implications was discussed. Jennifer will contact Jim Hruzek to investigate. Jennifer also reported that money from sponsors of the Fall Institute should soon be received.

3. Committee Reports

a. Fall Institute – Paul Morico on behalf of Al Riddle

Paul reported that IPO (Herb Walmsley) has confirmed as keynote speaker. There have been minor adjustments ongoing to speakers and topics, but well within limits of normal. Total sponsorship to date is \$15,500, which appears to be about \$1,500 ahead of 2006 with a couple still to be contacted directly. As

of now we have all breaks, breakfasts and receptions covered. By July board meeting Al anticipates all speakers and sponsors will be finalized.

b. Long Range Planning – Steve Koch

Steve reported that he had prepared a list of members to form a committee. He plans on sending out invitations to these individuals in the coming weeks. His plan is to have the committee members spend some time formulating ideas and topics and then have the committee meet sometime in the fall to try and identify at least one idea to bring to the Board for consideration of adoption.

c. Entertainment – Joe Beauchamp

Joe was unable to attend, so no report was provided.

d. Website Overhaul – Chris Shield/Anthony Matheny

Chris reported that he had received two bids for the website overhaul. Both bids were discussed and the Board approved the bid from Web Designs of Houston. Anthony moved for the budget to be up to \$10,000. Georgianna Witt seconded the motion. All were in favor. The Board also appointed Chris to be the contact with Web Designs of Houston. Anthony will assist Chris.

The Board approved the award for the winning design for HIPLA's new logo. The award will be a \$250.00 gift certificate to Pappas restaurants. Steve Koch had moved for approval, Marcella Watkins seconded, and all were in favor. An e-mail to the membership about the contest will be sent out by Anthony.

e. Law School Scholarship Fund – Steven Spears

Steven reported that South Texas College of Law informed him that having a scholarship in which participation in a judicial internship was a factor for awarding the scholarship was acceptable under the ABA rules for law school accreditation. UH also seems to agree with South Texas' view. Steven said that he would put together a committee for determining the particulars regarding awarding the scholarships as well as the amount of the scholarships. Steven said that the HIPLA Fellowships would remain.

f. Meeting Arrangements/Program – Paul Morico on behalf of  
Shawn Foster

Paul reported that there will be no luncheon in July. The August luncheon will be held on August 23, 2007, and the September luncheon will be held September 20, 2007. An ethics CLE presentation will be provided by Media Masters at the August luncheon and Elizabeth King will provide CLE presentation at the September luncheon. The Board discussed the possibility of cancelling the September luncheon due to its proximity to the Fall Institute. No decision was made. The Board discussed the issue of presenters at luncheons

“selling” their products/services. Paul asked Steve Koch to confirm with Shawn that all luncheon presenters understand that they are not suppose to “sell” their products/services during their presentations.

Paul also stated that he would send an e-mail regarding early reservations for the luncheons to reduce the number of “walk-ups.”

4. Next Board Meeting

The next Board meeting will be held July 24, 2007 at 5:00 pm.

6. New Business

Luncheon Speaker – Greg Vetter

Greg informed the Board that Todd Larsen from WIPO’s United Nations office in New York contacted Greg and asked Greg if there was a way to have a local Texas bar association to “sponsor” a speaker from WIPO’s European office on the topic of WIPO’s arbitration services. The speaker would be in Houston February 25-26, 2007. The Board informed Greg that normally there is no luncheon in February because of the annual Judges’ Dinner. There was also discussion as to whether there was sufficient interest from HIPLA on the topic of international arbitration. Greg said that he would contact WIPO to see if a small audience, e.g., 20-30 people, was acceptable to WIPO and would report back to the Board at the July meeting for further discussion.

7. Old Business

None

8. On motion by Anthony Matheny, seconded by Georgianna Witt, the Meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.