



HIPLA Board Meeting Minutes February 24, 2009

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HIPLA Liaison to National IP Associations

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In Attendance:

Marcella Watkins
Steve Koch
Paul Morico
Steven Spears
Al Riddle
Carey Jordan
Randy Furlong
Chris Shields
Georgiana Witt

1. Approval of Minutes of previous meeting
Koch moved, Jordan seconded. Approved.
2. Treasurer's Report
As of the end of January, 2009, HIPLA has \$148,198 in its account. \$650 has been deposited since, and HIPLA will pay the University of Houston \$14,923.25 this month as its share of the revenue from the 2008 Fall Institute.
3. Old Business
 - 2009 Fall Institute Update
The planning session was held on January 31 and it went well.
 - Federal Circuit's November Panels in Houston
Contracts have been signed with the Houstonian for both the November 3 dinner and the November 4 seminar. The Houston Chapter of the Federal Bar Association has asked to be kept informed regarding the events surrounding the Federal Circuits' visit.
 - Mailing Labels
The board approved a letter prepared by Steven Spears to accompany mailing labels when they are sold to outside organizations.

4. New business

- Fellowship/Scholarship Committee

The Judicial Intern Committee has been renamed to the Fellowship/Scholarship Committee. Billy Allen and Brian Adams will work to re-write its description.

- Women IP Lawyers Committee

Carrie, Georgianna and Marcella will work on developing plans for a Women IP Lawyers Committee. This was motivated in part by the AIPLA's Women in IP Law dinner which was well-attended in Houston..

- Annual Meeting

The annual meeting is will be held in connection with the March 26 lunch. The slate of candidates to be voted on as determined by the nominating committee is as follows:

VP Anthony Matheny

Sec. Georgianna Witt

Treas. Howard Speight

Board Shawn Foster

Ted Poe

Elizabeth King

- Use of HIPLA

A question was raised about a local attorney's possible use of "HIPLA" in his e-mail address. Further investigation showed that "HIPLA" was not part of the actual address, but was likely just his personal identifier for that address. If this is the case, the board was not concerned. Marcella will follow up to confirm. This caused the board to revisit whether it should maintain the HIPLA trademark registration, and it was decided that this would not give any added benefit over common law rights in addressing such circumstances.

5. Next Board Meeting date will be March 23, 2008. Note that this is a Monday, instead of the usual Tuesday. This will be the last meeting of this board.

