

## May 25, 2016 Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order on May 25, 2016 by Ted Ro. The following individuals were in attendance:

Ted Ro, Betsy King, Keana Taylor, Jason Sander, Andrea Tran, Howard Speight, Albert Liou, Iona Kaiser, Steve Boyd, Ifti Ahmed, Andrew Ward, Rob Green, Lee Eubanks, Vinny Raj, Tammy Pennington, Wasif Qureshi, Priya Prasad, Monica Moussighi, and Carlyn Burton

**Approval of April minutes:** Steve moved to approve. Jason seconded. None opposed. Minutes were approved.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Beginning cash as of March 31, 2016: \$291,774.87

Ending cash as of April 30, 2016: \$263,687.56

**Accounting Proposal:** Jason presented Dorothy's proposed fees of \$150/month or \$1,800/year for accounting services including: (1) assisting with the preparation of checks; (2) assisting with bank deposits; (3) reconciling bank account; (4) recording transactions on a general ledger and posting the general ledger on a monthly basis; and (5) furnishing copies of monthly bank reconciliation, general ledger, and statement of income/expenses on a cash basis (prepared from the books). Ted moved to consider Dorothy's proposal for accounting support. Andrea seconded. None opposed. Dorothy's proposal for accounting services was approved

**Luncheon Support:** Jason will ask Dorothy if she can attend the monthly luncheons and bring registration materials including name tags. The Board will make a motion and vote via email. Jason suggests purchasing a Paypal reader to reduce manual credit card processing for late registrants. Tammy proposes giving Dorothy access to EventBright if the Board's vote passes.

**Law School Relations Committee:** Vinny discussed the goal of promoting HIPLA among law students and increasing law school involvement. Possible law student activities include hosting lunch & learn sessions at each of the three Houston law schools, disseminating information on scholarships and

fellowships in IP, hosting events to provide advice on course selection, career mentorship, and information related to the patent bar. Priya recommended that HIPLA hosts a reception for scholarship recipients. Vinny plans to contact law student reps at each law school and IP professors, post HIPLA lunches on each school's social media or bulletin board, and make use of the University of Houston's TV broadcast to publicize HIPA events. Betsy recommends reaching out to other law schools in Texas. Wasif suggested contacting engineering and science undergrads at UH.

**Scholarship:** Priya proposed a joint scholarship between HIPLA and the Nancy Atlas Inn of Court to be launched in the Fall. The Board discussed possible terms, amounts, and issues with the joint scholarship. Several members of the Board questioned whether the proposal was comprised of an adequate quid pro quo from HIPLA's perspective. Ted recommended giving the Board a month to consider and provide comments/concerns to Priya who will revisit this topic at next month's Board meeting.

**Bar Leaders' Conference:** This year's conference is scheduled for July 15-16 in Houston. The registration fee is \$125 for a HIPLA officer to attend. Ted moved to have HIPLA send any officer who is interested and can attend a minimum number of sessions to the conference and pay the \$125 registration fee. Andrea seconded. None opposed. The motion passed. Betsy, Keana, and Jason expressed interest in attending on behalf of HIPLA.

**Amicus Brief:** The Board previously approved HIPLA submitting an amicus brief this year. Lee contacted a Supreme Court expert and was informed that we missed the deadline to submit the brief. The Board will reconsider submitting a brief at the merits stage.

**Social Committee:** Rob reported that the golf tournament was a success with 49 players and 9 sponsors participating. He is planning a summer happy hour tentatively to be scheduled in July.

**Inventor of the Year (IOY):** Jennifer met with the IOY committee to review nominations and they selected Louis Waters to be the recipient of this year's award. The IOY luncheon will be in June with an expected turnout of about 50 people.

**Monthly luncheons:** Tammy recommended rotating Flemings and McCormick & Schmick's for all the HIPLA luncheons. The Board opposed, indicating that members prefer a variety of restaurants. Ted will

present commemorative plaques to Howard and Joe Beauchamp for their past service to HIPLA at an upcoming luncheon.

**Calendar:** Ted mentioned the upcoming HIPLA luncheon, Bar Leaders' conference on July 15-16, the summer happy hour, and the ABA IP Roundtable on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Resolutions:** Albert reported 95% of votes in favor of passing the proposed resolutions pertaining to: (1) (1) a 5-year time limit for the retention of client files, and (2) selling a law practice. Albert received comments from voters about the language of the resolution and will forward the comments to the delegate(s) who will attend the State Bar Annual Meeting on behalf of HIPLA. HIPLA will nominate a delegate to attend the resolutions session at the State Bar Annual Meeting.

**Motion to adjourn:** Ted adjourned the meeting.