



HIPLA

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HOUSTON INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW ASSOCIATION

MINUTES HIPLA BOARD MEETING

November 30, 2006

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In Attendance:

Al Kimball, Steve Koch, Paul Morico, Steve Spears, Gordon Arnold, Michael Locklar, Linda Stokley, Sharon Israel, Al Riddle, Norma Bennett, Paul Morico, Jeffrey Johnson

1. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

One clarification – payment to U of H was for the Paul Janecki professorship chair

Riddle moved to approve and it was seconded by Watkins - minutes were approved subject to clarification above

2. Treasurer's Report

Tax Return Approved. Accountant report shows assets of \$282,000.00, which does not include a payment to the University of Houston for the HIPLA Institute.

3. Judge's Dinner – Paul Morico

Bob Eury President of Center for Houston's Future is the speaker – non profit Houston downtown focused on making downtown a better place to live. Date is February 22, 2007 at Four Seasons Hotel. Paul sent save the date cards to judges, email went to membership and information was posted on website. Formal invitations will go out the first or second week of January to entire membership.

To do list includes the judges' gifts and the programs printed. Law Firms can make donations and will get name on program.

4. Committee Reports

a. Fall Institute – Steve Koch

There were 242 paid attendees and several comps – over 250 in all. CDs – were successful. The Fall Institute took in a gross of \$135,000.00 including registration and sponsorship. Preliminarily the net is about \$80,000.00.

Friday night dinner does not draw enough to make money on. We had 90 paid for dinner and a few comps. Sponsors are already approaching Steve for sponsorships. Thursday night reception is the hot item that sponsors want. HIPLA might consider more than one sponsor or increasing amount for this reception. When we determine the correct amount, we send half to University of Houston. Moody Gardens called and have 10/3-6 2007 and 9/24-28 2008 reserved, Steve has dates to propose for weekend after the first week in October for 2009. Check AIPLA calendar and the Jewish holiday. AIPLA.org has the calendar. Sharon Israel volunteered to find out the dates. Check with Paul Janicke on dates as well to lock up at least 3 years. Al Riddle will chair the next HIPLA Institute.

b. Luncheon – Jeremy Welch

On December 7 a holiday lunch at Tony's is planned. There will be one in January, not one in February and the last one for this term in March.

c. Local Rules – Howard Speight

HIPLA had a number of people that volunteered to help with Local Patent Rules. David Healy sent a letter with this list to the judges and has not heard anything back yet.

d. Amicus – Sharon Israel

Microsoft v. AT&T case –

1. Whether software is a component – HIPLA's amicus position - yes
2. Whether the component made in a foreign country would be considered supplied by U.S. – HIPLA's amicus position – no

Brief will be silent to the issue of damages. It will be an amicus brief that is not in support of either party.

Committee recommended filing brief. Motion to accept recommendation was made by Riddle, seconded by Watkins. Gordon Arnold abstained.

Brief is due December 15, 2006.

5. Steve Spears

Steve Spears moved to provide fellowship to student, seconded by Watkins, accepted unanimously. Paul Morico will invite recipient to Judges Dinner. Recipient and guest will be sponsored for the dinner. The fellowship will be \$3,000.00. A student can reapply in subsequent semesters if the internship lasts longer than one semester.

5. Next Board Meeting – January, 2006 – Al Kimball to send out an announcement for date.

6. New Business - none

7. Old Business - none