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HIPLA Board Meeting Minutes  
November 16, 2010

In Attendance:

Al Riddle  
Anthony Matheny \*  
Michael Locklar  
Joe Beauchamp  
Howard Speight  
Stephen Koch  
Shawn Foster  
Ted Ro  
Carey Jordan  
Jennifer Carnahan  
Luke Culpepper  
Ron Derrington  
Georgianna Braden  
\*in person, the rest by phone

1. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

Al Riddle called the meeting to order. Michael Locklar moved, with Shawn Foster seconding, to approve the meeting minutes from the October 2010 meeting. All approved.

2. Treasurer's Report

Joe Beauchamp reported that as of October 31, 2010, the HIPLA account had a balance of \$264,380.81. As of that date, income for 2010 was \$124,055 and expenses were \$71,157.79. Net income through October 31, 2010 was \$111,753, which does not include approximately \$61,000 in checks cut for the Fall Institute after November 1, 2010).

3. Old Business

- *Membership*

As of the meeting, membership was at 525, up from 510 last month. Al Riddle will work with Mark Chretien to send out an email to recruit former members.

*- Fall Institute Survey*

Al Riddle reported that 69 or 70 responses to the on line Fall Institute site preference survey had been received. Approximately 60 percent want the Fall Institute to stay in Galveston, and 40 percent wanted otherwise.

*- Luncheons*

Al Riddle reported that the November luncheon included an interesting presentation by South African attorneys. The Holiday luncheon will occur at Brennan's on December 9. The January luncheon may be devoted to commemorating HIPLA's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

*- Scholarships*

Al Riddle reported that Brian Adams of the scholarship committee has 10 scholarship candidates from South Texas and 5 from TSU. He further reported that UH is planning to send the names of only those candidates they believe should receive scholarships. A discussion ensued as to whether UH should send the names of all who apply or just the names of people they select for scholarships. Some of the attendees remembered that this was how the program was set up. Al Riddle will bring Steven Spears into the discussion with Brian Adams regarding this issue and will ask the scholarship committee for a recommendation as to whether the procedure should be changed.

*- Fall Activity*

Al Riddle reported that approximately 70 people attended the fall event at the St. Arnold's Brewery. The event was successful and the sponsor, F-O-R-T-U-N-E Personnel Consultants, Inc., was very gracious. Al Riddle expressed appreciation to Luke Culpepper for coordinating the event. A discussion ensued as to whether HIPLA should have a fall event and a spring event at St. Arnold's. Georgianna Braden suggested having the fall activity at St. Arnold's and the spring activity at another venue, just for variety.

*- Judge's Dinner*

Anthony Matheny proposed Robert Wittman as the Judge's Dinner speaker. His speaker's fee is \$3000 plus expenses. Anthony will try to get sponsors to cover some of the expenses. The board approved the expenditure of \$4000 for speaker's fees and expenses for Mr. Wittman. A discussion of table sponsorships was also held.

*- By-Laws Update/Review*

Al Riddle distributed proposed amendments to the bylaws. The primary changes are in the following sections (a) 5.3 and 5.4, which are no longer needed; (b) 6.4, to add transparency in how

the vice president is selected; (c) 9.2, to adopt what is already a de facto process of having the President-Elect put together the nominating committee, and (d) 10.2 to be in line with the HBA's approach to suspensions and expulsions. Anthony Matheny suggested revising section 6.3 to change the name of the "Program Committee" to the "Annual Judge's Dinner." Al Riddle hopes to present the amendments to the bylaws to the membership for a vote at the March luncheon meeting.

#### 4. New Business

##### *- Giles Rich Moot Court*

Norma Bennett is stepping down as HIPLA's Giles Rich Moot Court coordinator. Al Riddle expressed appreciation for her efforts in the past. Chris Shields has agreed to take the position on an interim basis with Rachelle Goldman helping. Neither has agreed to take the position going forward. HIPLA will need a new AIPLA representative to replace Norma. The Giles Rich Moot Court competition will take place in March.

##### *- 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*

This was previously discussed in the context of the luncheons.

##### *- Paralegal Section of the AIPLA*

The Houston IP Paralegal Association, which is a group of approximately 25 paralegals that has been meeting since about March 2010, inquired about affiliating with HIPLA. A discussion ensued and it was decided that such an affiliation would not be pursued at this time pending an investigation by Stephen Koch of whether such affiliations exist in Boston, New York, and Los Angeles, where similar paralegal associations exist. Anthony Matheny will contact the Houston group and offer to provide speakers and to invite them to attend HIPLA luncheons as guests.

#### 5. Next Board Meeting Date

The next Board meeting will be held on December 20. Future board meetings are scheduled for January 18 and February 15, 2011.

#### 6. Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

Howard L. Speight, Secretary