

# State Bar of Michigan

## Intellectual Property Law Section Council Meeting

December 11, 2014.  
By Teleconference

Attendance: Kristen Spano, David Berry, Hope Shovein, Beth Coakley, Steve Hansen, Tamara Clark, Gene Rath, Sharon Brady, Kristin Murphy, Chad Kleinheksel, and Stephanie Stenberg (ICLE). Karl Ondersma and Kendra Mattison were not in attendance.

Meeting was called to order at 10:020 a.m. Kristen Spano chaired the meeting.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the November 13, 2014 Council meeting were reviewed and approved.

### Financial Report

David Berry commented on the Section finances. The SBM distributed audited financial reports indicating an account balance for the end of FY 2014 (September 30, 2014) of \$96,921.01. The account balance as of November 30, 2014 is \$130,502.81, which includes dues revenue in October and November 2014 of \$35,097.00. (A copy of the November financial report is attached to these minutes.) David will contact SBM to verify the number of section members this year.

### Presentation at SBM Board of Commissioners

David Berry reported that he gave a brief presentation on the IPLS Section, including its plans for the upcoming year, at the SBM Board of Commissioners Meeting on November 21, 2014. One commissioner expressed concern that programming be made available to members in the Upper Peninsula.

### IPLS Proceedings

Tamara Clark reported that the content for the next IPLS Proceedings issue is ready to send to the SBM for production.

### Michigan Patent Pro Bono Program

David Berry reported on the status of the Michigan Patent Pro Bono program. The program launch and reception at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Detroit Office on November 18, 2014 was very successful. Speakers were Jennifer McDowell of the USPTO, Tom Rombach and Jennifer Grieco of the SBM, and David. The program was webcast on the USPTO website and a link to the recording is on the IPLS webpage. Rob Mathis of the PBI has received three client applications that meet the program financial eligibility guidelines, and the Screening Committee will be reviewing those applications for possible placement.

### Social Media

Gene Rath reported he has passed the “seed” questions approved by the Council to Julie Turcotte of the SBM.

### Planning for 2015 Spring Seminar

Stephanie Stenberg reported that planning for the 2015 Spring Seminar, to be held at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing on March 16, 2015, is complete. The Spring Seminar brochure on the ICLE website will be live within the next week.

### Planning for Fall 2015 Institute

Stephanie Stenberg led a discussion of plans for the Section's 2015 IP Institute, which will be held at the Westin Book Cadillac Hotel in Detroit on September 17-18, 2015. ICLE will be referring to the meeting as the "IP Law Institute," rather than the "Summer" or "Fall" institute to minimize any confusion. The Council discussed inviting Michelle Lee, and modifying the program schedule to accommodate her presentation. Stephanie will investigate delaying service at the strolling lunch to permit Lee's presentation.

IPLS Award

Kristin Murphy reviewed the award honoree selection procedure used by the Women Law Association. The Council agreed that a call for nominations, including a description of the award, should be sent out in January. Kristin and Beth Coakley will work on preparing a proposal for the January Council meeting.

Michigan Patent Pro Bono Steering Committee

Kristen Spano commented on the creation of the Michigan Patent Pro Bono Program Steering Committee as an ad hoc committee of the IPLS. The plan is to formalize the group as a permanent standing committee by amending the Section By-Laws at the next annual meeting.

Budget Review Group

The Council created a working group to review the Section's current budget surplus, and propose actions to balance revenues with expenses (such as reducing registration fees for programs or increasing services). Kristen Spano, David Berry and Sharon Brady volunteered for the group.

Next Meetings

The next Council meetings will be January 8, 2015 (by teleconference) and February 12, 2015.

On a motion by Kristin Murphy (seconded by Sharon Brady), the meeting adjourned at 10:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

David C. Berry  
Secretary