

**Minutes of the April 2011 Council Meeting
Intellectual Property Law Section,
State Bar of Michigan**

April 14, 2011
By Telephone Conference

Attendance

Present: Jennifer Anderson, David Wisz, Anna Budde, Scott Keller, Joellen Shortley, Kevin Mackenzie, Adam Strauss, Amanda Duhaime, Kristen Spano, Karl Ondersma and Ryan Bailey (ICLE).

Absent: Jean McCarthy and Eric Sosenko.

Call to Order

Chair Jennifer Anderson called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

Minutes

The minutes from the March meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

The Section had a balance of \$55,922.37 as of March 31, 2011.

The first and second prizes for the Section's writing contest for Michigan law school students have been paid out. The check for the third prize has been requested.

Continuing Business

Writing Contest

SBM issued a press release announcing the winners of the Section's writing contest.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to hold the writing contest again next year. The prizes will be the same (\$500 for first prize; \$300 for second prize; \$200 for third prize). We discussed announcing the contest earlier to the law school students, possibly at the end of this term, but at least in September-October in the fall. We plan again to put the submission deadline at the beginning of March and to present the awards at the Spring Seminar lunch. Joellen Shortley will follow up with Professor David Berry of Cooley Law School.

2011 Spring Seminar

Ryan Bailey of ICLE reported that the Spring Seminar went very well. This year there were 225 who registered, which was down from last year's 265 but in line with a general decline ICLE has seen for other seminars this year. Ms. Bailey reported that the feedback was very good on the evaluations that were returned. Overall satisfaction was 5.93 this year (on a scale of 7), up from last year. Several speakers were given very high ratings.

Ms. Bailey noted that this year there was no confusion and there were no complaints about a CD being the default format for the seminar materials. A couple of those attending purchased the binder as well as the CD. She will soon provide the Section with a final report and invoice.

2011 Summer IP Institute

So far there are 33 registrants, about the same as last year.

Ryan Bailey of ICLE outlined continuing marketing efforts. Email blasts will be sent out about every three weeks, and ICLE plans one or two more mailings of the brochure. Included in the mailings will be the top 500 IP law firms outside of Michigan and the membership of the Chicago bar. Ms. Bailey noted that speakers from last year's program had suggested wider publicity. An announcement is also posted on the Section's current events page.

Director Kappos remains to be confirmed as a speaker; the recent government budget fight has been the delay. ICLE has requested newly appointed Deputy Director of the USPTO Teresa Rea as speaker if Director Kappos is not available.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adopt as Section policy that the Section pay expenses for attending Summer Institute for the Section's Chair, Vice Chair, and moderators, and that the Chair and/or Vice Chair should each serve as a moderator of one of the tracks provided the track is in the person's practice area (i.e., a patent lawyer would not have to moderate the trademark track and a trademark attorney would not have to moderate the patent track).

The Section discussed whether expenses or partial expenses should be paid for Council members who would not be reimbursed by their employers. After a lively debate, the matter was tabled until the next meeting. Council members are to send proposals, if desired, to Ms. Anderson to frame the further discussion.

Proceedings

The next issue will publish the student articles from the writing contest. The articles are being shortened to fit the format. The Council discussed providing the full-length articles on the Section website, depending upon how extensive the editing.

New Business

JPO/EPO Patent Liaison Meetings

This year, the collaborative meetings with the JPO and EPO should be held in Washington, D.C. the EPO meeting is typically held around September-October. Kevin McKenzie will follow up with more information in future meetings.

Nominations for New Council Members

Chair Jennifer Anderson asked for names of any persons interested in serving as council member for the 2011-2014 term.

Upcoming Council Meetings

The dates for upcoming council meetings through June are as follows.

May 10, 2011 – 10:00 am Call (** N.B. change in date and starting time)

June 9, 2011 – 9:30 am Call (if needed)

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30.