

**Minutes of the Intellectual Property Section Council Meeting**  
**August 8, 2013**

1. **Attendance**

Present: Adam Strauss, Karl Ondersma, Kristen Spano, David Berry, Kendra Mattison, Kristen Murphy, Tamara Clark, Steve Hansen, Sharon Brady, Eugene Rath, Hope Shovein and Stephanie Stenberg of the Institute of Continuing Legal Education (ICLE).

2. **Call to Order**

Chair, Adam Strauss called the meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

3. **Introductions**

Each member of the Council in attendance introduced themselves.

4. **Minutes Approval**

The minutes of the June 13, 2013 Meeting, with addendum, and the July 20, 2013 meeting were approved.

5. **Reports**

- A. Treasurer's Report: Kristen Spano reported the ending fund balance as of June 2013 to be \$99,417.92. (Subsequent to the August 8, 2013 meeting, financial reports provided by the State Bar indicated the ending fund balance as of July 31, 2013 to be \$96,825.62 and expenses for the noted period to be \$34,286.58). Detailed financial reports provided by the State Bar are available from Kristen on request.
- B. 2013 Spring Seminar Final Report: Stephanie Stenberg distributed a final report on the Spring Seminar. She reported that 263 individuals registered for the seminar, with 216 actual attendees. This was down from 238 attendees in 2012, but higher than the 190 attendees in 2011. Evaluations of speakers were provided with report, which overall were positive and high. The overall institute rating was 5.96 out of 7.0, which was up from last year's program of 5.80. 56 of 56 respondents said that they will recommend the program to others and 55 of 56 said they plan to attend next year.

- C. 2013 Summer Institute Preliminary Report: Stephanie Stenberg reported on the Summer Institute and indicated that there were 225 registrants, with 224 actual attendees. This was up from 154 registrants, with 152 actual attendees at the Summer Institute in Traverse City in 2012. General response regarding the speakers was positive. 2014 is the 40th year of the Summer Institute. Dates are July 17-19th at the Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island.
- D. IPLS Proceedings: David Berry provided a general report regarding IPLS Proceedings, which is distributed three times a year. Council members need to solicit articles for the next edition.
- E. Writing Competition – David Berry reported on the third year of the writing competition. The competition is open to students at all Michigan law schools. There were four entries in 2013 and three winners. Awards are \$500 – 1<sup>st</sup> place, \$300 – 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and \$200 – 3<sup>rd</sup> place. Efforts continue to increase awareness and generate interest. Discussion was made regarding whether IPLS should continue with writing competition. Comments were that as part of our activities the writing competition has value, including promotion of the Section to law schools and providing Proceedings content. Secretary also notes for the record that the winners of the 2013 writing competition were Kyle Quigley (First Prize - \$500), Tasha Francis (Second Prize - \$300) and Jordan Zuppke (Third Prize - \$200).

6. **Continuing Business**

- A. State Bar Annual Meeting: Adam Strauss reported that on Thursday, September 19, 2013, 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m at the Lansing Center in Lansing, MI, Adam and Kristen Murphy will moderate - IP Overview: Patents, Trademarks, Copyrights, & Trade Secrets in 60 Minutes or Less.

- B. Pro Bono Program

David Berry reported on the status of the establishment of an IP Pro Bono Program. As a part of the AIA, the PTO is encouraging the formation of regional IP Pro Bono organizations. The Gala to celebrate the opening of the Patent Office in Detroit last year resulted in approximately \$35,000 in excess sponsorship funds, which are to be dedicated to starting an IP Pro Bono Program. David attended a meeting held at the beginning of the summer hosted by Ford in Allen Park. The meeting was well attended with a mix of in-house counsel and law firms. The next step is to create a steering committee to lead the effort for developing the program for the region. Discussions were had regarding how

involved the Council should be after providing the start-up funds. Anyone that wants to be on the steering committee should contact David Berry. If not, David will develop a proposed list and submit it to the Council for review.

## 7. New Business

A. IPLS Proceedings 2013-2014: Dave Berry will continue to work on IPLS Proceedings for the upcoming year with assistance from other Council members. Proceedings to come out in approximately October, February and May or June (3 issues). Discussions continued regarding whether we want to continue in paper form or move to electronic.

B. Writing Competition 2013-2014: Dave Berry will continue to work with law schools to generate interest and participation. Further discussions regarding whether to continue the competition.

### C. Bar Leadership Foundation

Adam Strauss attended the Bar Leadership Foundation in Mackinaw in June as the Chair Elect. Motion by Adam for Section to cover fees and related expenses for the Chair Elect or a designee to attend the Bar Leadership Foundation. Seconded by Kristen Murphy and unanimously approved. Karl O. brought up Consent Order regarding payment and whether we should reaffirm each year and put it in the minutes to preserve institutional knowledge.

D. Social Media Activity: Discussions were made regarding increasing the Section's social media activity. Kendra and Kristen Murphy will work with Adam to look into increasing Section presence on Facebook and LinkedIn and develop specific action items to bring back to the Council. They will also look into what the State Bar has already established and whether we can be added to that format.

E. Future Meeting Dates: 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month at the Lexington Lansing Hotel – Bordeaux Restaurant:

September 12, 2013

October 10, 2013

November 7, 2013

F. 2014 Spring Seminar: Monday, March 24, 2014 at Kellogg Center, East Lansing. Deadline for speakers and topics is October 15, 2013. Six to eight sessions for full day, including a lunch speaker.

- a. ICLE typically extends invitations to USPTO to provide a speaker for both the patent and trademark sessions. Karl O. to contact USPTO regarding suggested speakers. Potential topics may come from training materials for CLE presentations.
- b. Discussed potential lunch speakers and decided to continue with the trend of bloggers or other entertaining speakers.
- c. Morning break moved to after 9 am session.
- d. Breakout session to be added for law students or 3rd track.
- e. Discussed potential topics for spring seminar.

#### 8. **Formal Adjournment**

A Motion to adjourn was seconded and unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 11:47 a.m.