

# STATE BAR OF MICHIGAN

## Intellectual Property Law Section Council Meeting

**Thursday, June 7, 9:30am**

Dial In – 866-906-0123; Pass Code 3752058

Minutes approved at July 12, 2018 meeting

1. **Meeting** was called to order at 9:35am by Hope Shovein.
2. **Attendance:** Hope Shovein, Beth Coakley, Aaron Wong, Colin Cicotte, Mary Margaret O'Donnell, Matt Kendall, Angela Caligiuri, Tom Appledorn, Kimberly Berger, Jeff Kirkey and Barbara Concannon from ICLE. Not attending: Kendra Mattison, Dan Aleksynas and Mike Lisi.

**Minutes:** Motion made by Hope Shovein to approve the draft minutes from April 12, 2018 which was seconded by Aaron Wong and all approved.

### 3. Reports

A. Financial Report: This was provided by Beth Coakley and the current IPLS account balance was reported to be at \$130,457.89, up from the previous month balance of \$116,951.55, due primarily to payment of IPLS Section dues. Jeff Kirkey from ICLE noted that the current balance did not reflect the fees and costs for the March Seminar that had recently been invoiced to IPLS by ICLE and sent to Beth Coakley as Treasurer and Coakley noted that she has already submitted the invoice to the State Bar for payment to ICLE and that this debit should be reflected in next month's financial records.

Hope Shovein raised the point that Section Chairs received a notice from the State Bar that it was time to consider whether current IP Section dues of \$35 should be raised and that she, Kendra Mattison and Beth Coakley had already discussed this issue and concluded that there should be no increase in Section dues at this time. The rationale for this was, in part, that the IPLS Committee is currently sufficiently funded and as a non-profit committee, has been attempting to designate worthy IP causes and events to sponsor and support and that an increase in dues would be inappropriate and unnecessary at this time. Beth Coakley moved to keep the IP Section dues at \$35 per year, Matt Kendall seconded this motion, and all unanimously approved no changes to IP Section dues.

Beth Coakley indicated that Committee Section Treasurers recently received a notice from the State Bar that a special rate for tele-conferencing has been negotiated by the State Bar with AT&T and that the IPLS Committee could reduce its current cost for tele-conferencing by changing over to this new conferencing system. Beth Coakley moved to change the current tele-conferencing system used by the IPLS Committee and to adopt the new rates negotiated by the State Bar with AT&T, Hope Shovein seconded it, and all unanimously agreeing to proceed with making this change. Beth Coakley agreed

to make arrangements to implement this change and will provide further specific updates to the Committee once in place.

**B.** *IPLS Proceedings* composed of Colin Cicotte, Dan Aleksynas and Matt Kendall did not provide any update at this time.

#### **4. Continuing Business**

**A.** Patent Pro Bono Project was reported upon by Angela Caligiuri and she advised that a Pro Bono Project meeting was currently scheduled for next week. She also indicated she is aware of five (5) attorneys who are currently volunteering as Pro Bono counsel and that she had received notification that the committee had recently received several favorable new Pro Bon patent applicants seeking assistance.

**B.** New Ideas Committee which is made up of Mary Margaret O'Donnell, Matt Kendal, Dan Aleksynas, Colin Cicotte and Angela Caligiuri reported through Mary Margaret O'Donnell that several new opportunities had been ascertained and were being further defined for consideration. More specifically, Mary Margaret reported the sub-committee was considering:

- i)** an opportunity for the IPLS Committee to sponsor the Florence King Award in the amount of \$3,000 which would be primarily devoted to providing IP scholarships, and

- ii)** an opportunity for the IPLS Committee to sponsor the Women Lawyer's Committee scholarship in the annual amount of \$3,000 to be paid each year for five (5) years.

Hope Shovein noted that the defined purpose of the IPLS Committee is educate its members and not necessarily to educate others or students that are not otherwise committed to IP. A discussion was had about possibly considering or creating a new IPLS Committee status as a "student member" that would then confirm the continued dedication of IPLS Section efforts and resources toward educating IP members.

- iii)** Matt Kendall reported that he had attempted to reach out to IP Inns of Court recently but noted that it had its last meeting recently so he had not connected with anyone just yet. Beth Coakley indicated she was actively involved in IP Inns of Court and would contact the new Chair, Eric Dobrusin, to discuss possible educationally related sponsorships and/or donations and report back when contact is made. Matt Kendall also suggested that the Theodore Lewis award and/or Camp Invention scholarship may be possible worthy ways in to provide financial resources and support to IP causes but uncertain if these would promote the IPLS committee purpose of educating its members and would look into this further.

- iv)** Hope Shovein again raised the possibility of the IPLS Committee planning and hosting a luncheon speaking event on the General Data Protection Regulation ("GDPR") and various members discussed multiple



speaker options including various local firms that had existing speaking presentations on the subject matter and recommendations on international counsel that could also review the GDPR topic. It was agreed that this topic was worthy of a special luncheon event in the near future and also for another more international discussion during a future IPLS Spring or Fall seminar. Hope Shovein requested, and Jeff Kirkey agreed, that all who had suggestions on a possible speaker for the GDPR topic to send those names and contact information to Jeff Kirkey to include with his list of possible topics and speakers for future consideration and review.

v) Beth Coakley suggested that the IPLS committee “reach out” to all of its in-house or corporate counsel IP members to inquire about how the IPLS Section can better serve and address the needs of in-house counsel with the objective of better serving as well as attracting more in-house counsel membership and/or participation. Mary Margaret O’Donnell and Hope Shovein agreed that this was a good idea and all agreed that rather than a survey or interviewing these members, an “informal” letter from the Chair and Co-Chair to IP Section in-house counsel members would be the best or most appropriate approach to address this issue. Beth Coakley offered to compile a list of all in-house counsel IP Section members to provide contact information and access the actual number of members that this would involve. All agreed with Beth Coakley that with Kendra Mattison as incoming Chair and as in-house IP counsel for a major corporation, this was a particularly good time to consider addressing this issue, the details of which to be further discussed with the input of Kendra Mattison.

## **5. Old Business**

A very short debriefing on the Spring Seminar which was held on Monday, March 19, 2018 at the Crowne Plaza in Lansing Michigan was conducted by Jeff Kirkey who agreed to send out a report or summary of the speaker evaluations in the near future.

Jeff Kirkey reported that all plans for the Fall Institute scheduled to be held at the Dearborn Inn on October 25-26, 2018 were now finalized. All speakers and events have been confirmed and three (3) announcements about the event were recently sent that included an invitation to IP Section members by Hope Shovein, a focused invitation to the Patent Bar by ICLE, and a general invitation to the IP Section members at large by ICLE. Although the event is still twenty (20) weeks away, there are currently 10 people that have signed up for the seminar as compared to 14 at this time for last year’s Fall event.

Jeff Kirkey also confirmed that the Crowne Plaza in Lansing Michigan has now been reserved and confirmed as the venue for the next Spring Seminar to be held on March 18, 2019.

## **6. New Business**

Hope Shovein noted that the election and change in IP Committee positions will take place in August, 2018 as has typically been the case in the past, but the

actual "passing of the gavel" and announcements about the IP Committee positions will occur and be made at the October event at Dearborn Inn.

No other new business was raised or reported.

**7. Future Meeting Dates:**

- **July 12, 2018** (in person)
- **August 9, 2018** (via tele-conference)
- **September 20, 2018** (venue and whether meeting will be in person or via tele-conf **to be decided**)

Hope Shovein advised that email reminders about the above meetings along with the date, time and locations will be sent to Committee members and encouraged all to watch for these announcements given the importance of full attendance and participation as we begin planning for next year's events.

**8. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 10:10pm.

Respectfully submitted:

  
Lisabeth H. Coakley

Secretary/Treasurer

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