

# State Bar of Michigan

## Intellectual Property Law Section Council Meeting

November 13, 2014.  
By Teleconference

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

Meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the October 3 and October 9, 2014 Council meetings were reviewed and approved as amended.

### Financial Report

David Berry commented on the Section finances. The SBM fiscal year ended September 30, 2014, and he has not yet received updated financial reports. However, it appears that the Section's finances have not changed materially since last month. David has asked the SBM Financial Services Manager to set up a new expense account to track expenditures related to the Michigan Patent Pro Bono Project.

### IPLS Proceedings

Tamara Clark reported on plans for the November IPLS Proceedings issue. Beth Coakley suggested that the Section adopt a standard article republication request form. Tamara will circulate articles to be included in the next issue.

### Michigan Patent Pro Bono Program

David Berry reported on the status of the Michigan Patent Pro Bono program. Volunteer Attorney Panel orientation meetings were held in Grand Rapids on November 11 and Southfield on November 12, and were very well attended. The program will be launched at an event at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Detroit Office on November 18, 2014 at 4:00 PM. The Section will be hosting a reception at the Patent Office for those attending the ceremony. Due to the potential for higher than expected costs, including equipment rental and catering costs, David made a motion that the Council approve expenditures to pay for the reception and related costs, not to exceed \$3,500 (superseding the approval at the October 9, 2014 meeting) These amounts would be covered by the Patent Office Gala Surplus funds held by the Section. (Seconded by Kendra Mattison). The motion was approved without opposition.

### Social Media

Gene Rath reported on the development of social media for the Section. The Section will integrate its online materials with the SBM Connect format when it is launched later this month. The Council agreed that past issues of the IPLS Proceedings should be available to Section members on the site.

### Planning for 2015 Spring Seminar

Stephanie Stenberg led a discussion of plans for the 2015 Spring Seminar, to be held at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing on March 16, 2015. Gene Quinn has agreed to be the lunch speaker. The Council agreed that a possible Section achievement award will not be mentioned in the ICLE brochure. The Council discussed inviting the new Regional Manager of the Detroit Patent Office to make brief remarks as part of the lunch program. The Council discussed and agreed that Carl Opendahl should present the program on § 101 practice without a USPTO

speaker if necessary. The Council approved the presentation topic proposed by Batur Oktay from Starbucks. The Council approved ICLE's proposal to mail promotional brochures by third class mail, to allow a broader distribution. David Berry mentioned that if interest exists, a patent pro bono volunteer orientation session could be held after the last speaker, and Stephanie will investigate reserving space.

#### Planning for Fall 2015 Institute

Stephanie Stenberg led a discussion of plans for the Section's Fall ("Summer") 2015 IP Institute, which will be held at the Westin Book Cadillac Hotel in Detroit on September 17-18, 2015. Kristen Spano and David Berry will be the moderators. The Council discussed moving the business meeting to lunch, rather than holding it in the morning session. David and Beth informed the Council that there is an opportunity to invite Michelle Lee, who has been nominated to be the next USPTO Director, to attend and speak at the Institute. Karl will send an email to Janet Gongola to ask her to participate as the USPTO Update speaker and to advise her that the Council intends to invite Ms. Lee immediately after her confirmation. The Council approved holding the Women in IP group meeting as a lunch on Friday at the Fountain Grill. The Council discussed the need to send a "Save the Date" email blast, and Stephanie will investigate creating a website landing page to be used in the blast.

#### USPTO PTAB Program

Beth Coakley and David Berry reported on the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office PTAB Roadshow program to be held at Cooley Law School in Auburn Hills on November 5, 2014. The Section hosted a dinner for Ms. Gongola, visiting judges, and Section members on Nov. 4 at Mitchell's Seafood in Birmingham. The PTAB program at Cooley was very well attended and very well received. Attendance at the after-program reception sponsored by the Section was excellent.

#### ListServe Update

Karl Ondersma reported that he has updated the list of persons authorized to send email blasts on behalf of the Section.

#### IPLS Award

Beth Coakley will work with Kristin Murphy to develop procedures for nominating and selecting award recipients. The Council agreed that it should not be called an "annual" award, since it may not be conferred every year.

#### Michigan Patent Pro Bono Steering Committee

Karl Ondersma reported on the need to establish a standing committee to direct the Michigan Patent Pro Bono Program. According to the Section By-Laws, the Council may establish ad hoc committees for special projects. Karl indicated that due to the nature of this project, it was advisable to create a permanent standing committee by amending the Section By-Laws at the next annual meeting. After discussion, David Berry moved that the Council authorize Karl, Kristen Spano, and David Berry to propose an ad hoc committee of the Section to direct the pro bono program until the By-Laws can be amended. The motion was seconded and passed without opposition.

#### Next Meetings

The next Council meetings will be December 11 (by teleconference) and January 8, 2015.

On a motion by Kendra Mattison (seconded by Hope Shovein), the meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

Respectfully submitted:

David C. Berry  
Secretary