

Minutes of the SBM IPLS meeting of April 13, 2006

The meeting was conducted via telecon and was *called to order* around 9:40am. Those *Council members in attendance* were, *Beverly Bunting, Laura Slenzak, Greg Bonderenko, Mark Davis, Denise Glassmeyer, Lisa Smith, and Jennifer Warren*. John Naber, Jake Grove, Craig Baldwin, Frank Angileri and Charlie Ashbrook were not able to participate.

Minutes of March 2006 meeting were approved.

Last month's Spring Seminar was discussed. There was record attendance (366) and the section's subsidy will run around \$3000-\$4000, which is well within our budget. A number of new seminar topics were suggested by the participants in their rating surveys. The new binders and the new flyers were well-liked and will be continued. Kellogg Center had been tentatively reserved for next year, and the counsel agreed that was fine. A list of registrants will be included for future years.

The *newsletter* is slated for June 1st publication, with all articles due absolutely by May 5th. Articles will cover: pro bono, spring recap, summer hype, fall hype, proposed reexamination rules, nominations and elections coming due, proposed US opposition rules.

The *fall seminars* will feature a *"how to" introduction to EFS and its interplay with PAIR, in addition to the 'to be launched in the fall' EFS for RO/US PCT filings*. Target sizes are 200 east side and 100 west side. The Marriott Centerline, Troy Marriott or MSU Mgmt Center remain suggestions for "east side" location, while the Somerset Inn was added (based on MIPLA having just had their EFS seminar this week). Grand Valley's Eberhard Center or Amway Grand Plaza Hotel remain possible sites for the "west side" of the state. The Amway Grand, however, may be balking at securing our registration more than 90 days ahead, because we are not booking a block of rooms. We will ask ICLE to quote for selecting and contracting with the sites, in addition to handling the reservations, mailing and e-mailing and snail mailing of brochures, and to handle on-site check-in. Target pricing is around \$30 with the extra cost to be subsidized by our funds, of which The Council agreed that we have more than sufficient funds to subsidize these seminars. Tentative dates are Oct 2nd and 3rd. Mark will circle-back with ICLE to confirm their ability to support on-site registrations those days, and with the USPTO to ensure speaker(s) are available.

Regarding the *Summer Institute*, the pace of registrations seems down, but may be due to Easter. Once everyone is done with spring break vacations, we will send out another solicitation and it is expected that participants will be able to focus beyond spring break toward summer events and activities. Bev still has not heard back from Judge Newman to confirm our desire to have her as keynote for summer 2007.

Marjory Basile will be keynote speaker for the *women's i.p. networking breakfast*.

For the *corporate council lunch*, Laura Slenzak and Charlie Ashbrook are going to moderate. The general topic remains the changing nature of the inside/outside counsel relationship and controlling of costs, e.g. requests for quote, off-shoring, purchasing pools, reverse auction bidding, etc. Information will be printed out and placed at each table, and additional 'pre' packages will preferably be e-mailed to lunch registrants to ensure a lively discussion! Laura will make sure that our Eli Lilly and Revlon speakers are invited to participate.

Artz & Artz is sponsoring the Thursday evening reception, Gifford Krass et al is sponsoring the Friday evening reception, Honigman Miller Schwartz & Cohn is sponsoring continental breakfasts for both Friday and Saturday mornings, and Reising Ethington is sponsoring the women's networking breakfast.

The topic of *elections* came up again. There are three members whose terms are expiring this summer, Charlie, Denise and Lisa, none of whom are term-limited.

Greg will gather some thoughts on the proposed rule changes, for distribution to the council and for the section possibly taking one or more "official" positions. At the very least, Laura will ask the Bar to update our section site with links to the various positions and blogs on the many rule changes.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:50am.

The next (May 2006) meeting will be in-person.

There are not any plans for a June meeting unless we find we need one.