

Minutes of the SBM IPLS meeting of December 8, 2005

The meeting was *called to order* around 10am. Those *Council members in attendance* were *Craig Baldwin, Charles Ashbrook, Beverly Bunting, Jennifer Warren, Laura Slenzak, Lisa Smith (via telecon), Denise Glassmeyer (via telecon)*. Also present was Lynn Chard, ICLE.

Minutes of November 2005 meeting approved.

The Bar sent an expenses report (as of 10/30). The treasurer "remarks" as they were, were approved. Likewise the minutes of the November meeting were approved.

Discussion turned to the *March 20th Spring Seminar*. Discussion was had regarding Greg's email regarding the change in topics, namely Bob Spar suggested and we agreed to substitute rule changes for reexamination. *When the Federal Register notice is published w/r/t comment period for these proposed rule changes, the Section will send a notice via the listserv to the membership to both help publicize the Spring seminar and to highlight the rule changes topic*. For publicizing, we will highlight that there is a full day worth of trademark activities so that we will hopefully catch the eye of our non-patent audience. We also discussed upgrading the visual appeal of the mailing to match the upgraded content. To that point, the council approved spending up to an additional \$4000 for an upgraded flyer (e.g. two color on glossy paper).

Time slot	Track 1	Track 2
9-9:55am	Patent Appellate Practice – when to use or not use the pre-appeal conference, tips and tricks <i>USPTO speaker Bob Spar</i>	Trademark Trial strategy depending on whether you are at civil action trial or TTAB <i>Peter Mack (Foley & Lardner)</i>
9:55-10:50am	Patent Restriction practice - USPTO speaker to give a "where we are coming from" point of view in light of recent upswing in their declaring restrictions, and how best to handle <i>Charles VanHorn (Finegan Henderson)</i>	Trademark Trials and Appeal Board Practice: Oppositions are on the rise. Can you rise to the occasion? <i>USPTO speaker Peter Cataldo</i>
11:05am- noon	Patent RULE CHANGES w.r.t. limit # claims, continuations and ref's cited in IDS <i>USPTO speaker Bob Spar</i>	Trade Secret Litigation <i>Angileri confirmed Mark Cantor of BK</i>
Lunch	Judge – <i>George Caram Steeh III</i>	
Noon-1:20pm		

1:20pm-2:20pm	Plenary Session: M&A Due Diligence – checklist of things to watch for, lessons learned the hard way. David Roodman and Daniel Crowe (Bryan Cave)	
2:30pm-3:30pm	What Exactly is 102(e) Prior Art, and Understanding Effective Dates of Prior Art under the US, EP and PCT Regimes Craig Summerfield (Brinks Hofer)	Trademark Enforcement Management & Strategies to Counter Counterfeiting Valerie Fedowich (Pfizer)
3:30-4:30pm	Copyright/Software Licensing Susan Kornfield (Bodman)	Non-Competes and the Intersection of I.P. and Employment Law James Boutrous (Butzel Long)

Discussion then turned to *next year's Summer Institute (July 20-22, 2006) at Grand Traverse*. Jennifer suggested and Laura and Bev and Denise will take care of the "chick breakfast." We would also like to have a fun event like a spa activity. Grand Traverse has a very nice spa. Non-seminar participant activities that will be looked into are things such as spa, golf, wine-tasting tour, Sleeping Bear Dunes national park (kids, ranger programs, rafting trips). The promo brochure will, at the very least, provide a laundry list of activities that participants can self-book. Since this is a new location and is not Mackinac Island, providing a wealth of non-seminar "things to do" will perhaps take some of the "fear factor" out of bringing the family with you to the seminar.

Laura will call Brinks Hofer to see if they would like to sponsor the Thursday night reception.

For the corporate counsel roundtable, the theme is "does the DuPont model really work?" That being, can you really cull your list approved outside firms from 600 to 60? Supporting hand-out materials for spurring discussion include information on online reverse auctions, RFP's, the corporation purchasing consortium, etc.

For the fall, the council would like to consider offering an electronic trademark filing (should audience be attorneys, or also the assistants who actually do the filings?). Mark Davis will follow-up w/r/t: status. As an alternative for the fall, Laura can seek Dr. Katharina Komarnicki from Siemens Munich office to speak w/r/t open source/GPL/Linux. Also, we will keep in mind the need to be spontaneous for seminars, e.g. electronic patent filings when the USPTO's new system gets up and running. Other possible topics/themes include a "boot camp" "basic training" for admins and new attorneys.

w.r.t. "Proceedings" formatting update is being bid out (i.e. dual column not single column) to have it published by end of January. Items for the issue include promoting the spring conference, the minutes of recent meetings, "guest column" of cool blogs I've visited. CONTENT, we crave CONTENT!

Laura ***still*** needs to send out the notice to the various local, state and national *i.p. related bar associations* informing them of our officers and council members for the 05-06 year (e.g. ABA, AIPLA, MIPLA, NYIPLA, etc.), however she has at least updated the Section's *website* and *listserv*. If anyone has suggestions or "wish list" ideas for the form or content of the site, please send those to Laura.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:15pm.