

MSBA COMPUTER LAW SECTION

NOVEMBER 14, 2006

I. ATTENDANCE

A. Attendees

Kari Wangensteen (Chair), Chris Hilberg (Vice-Chair), Damien Riehl (Secretary), Vanessa Beardsley (Treasurer), Steve Bern, Kevin Brady, Chip Brink, Steve Buckingham, James Evans, Kenneth Hall, Steve Helland, David Huber, Doug McGhee, Allen Oh, Eric Palmer, Mary Sennes, Steve Simon, Dan Tysver,

B. Excused Absences

Miguel Azar, Jim Blomquist, Charlie Johnson, Alecia Kirkevold, Carolyn Sandberg, John Taft

C. Absences

Katheryn Andresen, Charles Beck, John Carney, Frank Farrell, Eric Palmer, Jenny Salyers, Tom Sheran

II. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 11:45

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Brink asked how one may be counted as an “excused” absence. Ms. Wangensteen stated that attendees need to notify her if they will not be able to attend.

Ms. Beardsley moved for approval of minutes, Mr. Hilberg second. Minutes approved.

IV. TREASURER’S REPORT

Our treasury balance to date: \$9,294.52

V. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Nominations/Bylaws – Chip Brink

Will have to start thinking about nominations, since the process is beginning in January.

B. Newsletter – Alecia Kirkevold, Kevin Brady, and Damien Riehl

The newsletter has begun its transition to becoming a blog, which is located at <http://mntech.typepad.com/>. The reason for creating the blog is that it will be more immediate medium than the newsletter, which was previously distributed only twice a year. This will also permit instantaneous discussion, rather than the one-way medium of PDF distribution.

It was suggested that a summary of the blog contents be distributed to the membership on a regular basis (e.g., monthly). This would increase awareness and encourage active participation in the authorship and comments to the postings. It was suggested that the MSBA link to the blog directly.

Mr. Tysver asked whether the blog has been distributed out to search engines and other blog tracking services. Mr. Riehl responded that Typepad's service automatically distributes to Technorati, which will then distribute it to the other services.

Please contact a member of the committee if you would like to be an author, adding content to the blog.

C. Noontime CLE – (OPEN)

Doug McGhee Volunteered to serve as the Noontime CLE committee chair.

D. Case Law – Jim Blomquist

No report.

E. Legislative – Allen Oh

No report.

F. Membership/Student Outreach

Mr. Buckingham spoke with the all four local law schools' Career Development representatives.

Mr. Buckingham and Ms. Sandberg Gave a presentation to them

Hamline, Mitchell, U of M, and St. Thomas are looking for presentations in the February timeline.

Have genericized a 3M program, where it includes real-life scenarios. It reads like an exam, and rather than

G. Website – Michael Luzum

No report.

H. Technology Roundtable – Dan Tysver

Ms. Wangenstein will select the January roundtable topic and assignment. Mr. Tysver will select the February roundtable assignment.

I. Patent Law – Steve Bern

Mr. Bern does not have a particular case to present, but he hopes to have a happy hour discussion. If members would like to discuss computer science patent law developments, please contact Mr. Bern.

J. 2006 CLI – Kari Wangenstein

This year's CLI had 142 registrants, which is a bit higher than prior years' attendance. Feedback to the topics was favorable. On a scale of 1-7, attendees rated it to be a 6. Attendees liked the topics, but they would have liked more detail on hotter issues (e.g., Net neutrality).

K. 2007 CLI – Chris Hilberg

Those interested in assisting Mr. Hilberg in next year's CLI Committee: Vanessa Beardsley, Kevin Brady, and Damien Riehl. Any ideas for topics for the next CLI should be directed to Mr. Hilberg.

VI. SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORT: NAME CHANGE TASK FORCE

The Name Change Task Force presented a report (attached). The task force determined that its task was to determine what the new name should be, rather than whether it should change (which has been agreed upon for several years). The members of the task force looked at a description of our section's services, as well as what other Bar Associations were doing around the country.

Most other bar associations still use the name "Computer Law," but their CLEs are generally called "Technology Law." The reason for this is likely to gain more attendees.

The task force decided to come back to the section with two names for discussion: (1) Technology Law Section and (2) Computer and Technology Law Section.

It was asked whether the name changes the scope of the section? It was concluded that the name change will not make any change to our mission. We think it's better to have a name that is more descriptive of what we are doing.

The task force took a straw vote of attendees of today's meeting:

Computer and Technology Law Section = 5

Technology Law Section = 7

The task force will reconvene and will narrow the choice to one recommendation that will be offered at the next meeting. The section will vote at the next meeting on the committee's recommendation

VII. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at noon.

VIII. NOONTIME CLE

A. Employer Protection of Sensitive Material

Presented by Steve Simon of Robins, Kaplan, Miller & Ciresi, LLP

-Damien A. Riehl, Secretary