

**2015 PTRCA Annual Business Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, March 19, 2015, 1:30pm**  
**Madison Building, US Patent and Trademark Office, Alexandria, VA**

The 2015 Annual Business Meeting of the Patent and Trademark Resource Center Association (PTRCA) was called to order by President Spruce Fraser (St. Louis, MO) at 1:03 p.m.

Approval of Minutes from 2014 Business Meeting (Suzanne Reinman, PTRCA Secretary, Stillwater, OK)

- Approved as written (Martin Wallace, Orono, ME approves) and Karen Kitchens (Cheyenne, WY seconds)
- Annual business meeting minutes and Executive Council meeting minutes from 2014 have been posted to the PTRCA website.

See: [http://ptrca.org/system/files/2014\\_PTRCA\\_Annual\\_Business\\_Meeting\\_Minutes.pdf](http://ptrca.org/system/files/2014_PTRCA_Annual_Business_Meeting_Minutes.pdf)

President's Report: State of the Association (Spruce Fraser, St. Louis, MO)

- Full report published in the PTRCA Journal, posted on website.  
See <http://ptrca.org/newsletters/2015/presidentsreport>
- Fraser paid tribute to Martha Sneed's years of leadership at the USPTO and the PTRC Program. She also remarked on the retirement skits for Sneed.
- Fraser thanked all those who helped with the Meet and Greet and with Sneed's retirement party. She also thanked the Council for their hard work this year and to the PTRCP staff for their help with the PTRCA Thursday programing.
- Fraser thanked Walt Johnson for arranging for the new table cloth for the PTRCA because of the Association's rebranding from PTDLA to PTRCA.
- Fraser sent out a call for service to the membership in signing up for the various committees.
- A call for approval of the president's report was asked for and was approved by Jan Comfort (Clemson, SC) and seconded by Ran Raider (Dayton, OH)

Treasurer's Report (Jim Miller, College Park, MD)

- Full pre-seminar report (current March 7, 2015) has been published in the PTRCA Journal, posted one the website. See: <http://ptrca.org/files/TreasurersPreSeminarReport030715.pdf>
- As of March 7:
  - \$3699.04 in checking
  - \$5178.51 in CD
  - \$390.00 collected in membership renewals with an additional \$1040.00 collected at seminar, for a total of \$5129.04 balance.
  - \$5 Bank charge for Canadian funds conversion
  - \$25 for incorporation filing
  - \$1647.80 and \$558.22 for 2014 catering services at seminar
  - \$2893.02 current balance
- 34 membership renewals of which 25 renewals from attendees

- Marian Armour-Gemmen (Morgantown, WV) asked for total membership numbers. Miller (College Park, MD) replied that there are 62 members but by the end of seminar there will be a total of 34.
- Miller (College Park, MD) spoke about PTRCA resolution honoring Doug Salser and Armour-Gemmen (Morgantown, WV) asked if we could post the resolution on the PTRCA website.

#### Secretary's Report

- Suzanne Reinman (Stillwater, OK) was absent because of travel
- Her report is available on the Association's website.
- Spruce (St. Louis, MO) thanked Reinman for publication of the *PTRCA Journal* and her hard work on it.

#### Committee Reports

1. Archives committee
  - a. Draft retention policy distributed to committee. One comment received regarding who would be collecting the material. Ran Raider (Dayton, OH) volunteered to act as archivist for the association but details needed to be worked out. Martin Wallace (Orono, ME) commented that there need to be something in the bylaws regarding retention of PTRCA business letters and materials.
  - b. Raider also asked a question regarding the Esther Crawford Service Award on who would be eligible to receive it. It was unanimous that the award should be open to all. A final award criteria will be sent out to the membership after the seminar.
2. Bylaws Committee
  - a. Fraser (St. Louis, MO) nothing to report
3. Conference Committee
  - a. Fraser (St. Louis, MO) reported that since the decision was made to remain at the USPTO for the PTRCA day and business meeting the effort to look at other locations was dropped.
4. Database Committee
  - a. Miller (College Park, MD), Russ Allen sent a DVD of all trademarks not in TESS, some 20,000 OCR scans which are searchable. Miller will investigate how to search the "dirty text" using words and names and possibly add it to our collection of databases on the web site.
5. Election Committee
  - a. Leena Lalwani (Ann Arbor, MI) thanked Charlotte Erdmann (West Lafayette, IN), Hal Mendelson (Orlando, FL) and Christina Byrne (Seattle, WA) recruiting candidates. Lalwani commented on how it was nice to have multiple candidates for some of the open positions. Election results:

- i. Martin Wallace (Orono, ME) Vice President/President Elect
- ii. John Schlipp (Highland Heights, KY) Secretary
- iii. Jim Miller (College Park, MD) Treasurer
- iv. Andrew Maines, (Buffalo, NY) Public Library Division
- v. Suzanne Reinman (Stillwater, OK) Academic Library Division

6. Membership and Mentoring Committee

7. Program and Outreach Committee

- a. Linda Spiro (Houston, TX) representative the association at the ALA Affiliates Luncheon in Chicago. Spiro commented that she spoke about the recent developments in the PTRC program. Jared Hoppenfeld (College Station, TX) recommended dropping off association brochures at the Affiliates Table during the convention.

8. Publications Committee

- a. Newsletter: Spruce Fraser (St. Louis, MO) Thanked Suzanne Reinman for putting together and publishing the *PTRCA Journal*.

Announcements

- Spruce Fraser (St. Louis, MO) put out a call for service in the various committees. There was an email sent out but you can also sign up at the PTRCA table in the reception area and later via email

Unfinished Business

- None noted.

New Business

- Dave Morrison (Salt Lake, UT) remarked that people had been coming up to him and asking about the lapel pin he was wearing. It is an old PDL pin. Morrison thought it might be time for the association to create a new lapel pin for the membership. Morrison asked for a motion for a new lapel pin. There was overwhelming support for the endeavor. Cost recover would be based on the sale of the pins at the conference. Andrew Maines (Buffalo, NY) approved the motion and Jan Comfort (Clemson, SC) seconded. Morrison said he will investigate the costs and come back to the Executive Board with a proposal.
- Martha Sneed (USPTO) suggested at next seminar that a "pin" collection be placed on display in the reception area.

Adjournment, 1:34 p.m.

- Jim Miller (College Park, MD) approves the adjournment of the Patent and Trademark Resource Center Association business meeting; Charlotte Erdmann (West Lafayette, IN) seconded. Meeting adjourned at 1:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ran Raider and John Schlipp for  
Suzanne Reinman, PTRCA Secretary