

PTDLA Business Meeting
ALA Annual Meeting, Washington, DC
27 June 2010

The meeting was called to order with humor by Andrew Wohrley and lasted approximately an hour.

The meeting was attended by about 12 members so a quorum was not met.

The meeting was held at ALA since no Patent and Trademark Depository Library Seminar was held this year.

- I. Reports
 - A. Minutes from last year's meeting were on the Internet.
 - B. There was no Treasurer's Report.
 - C. There were no committee reports nor old business.
- II. New Business:
 - A. PTDLA Crisis: Andy Wohrley
 - 1. Several Issues
 - a. Training Seminar postponed
 - b. USPTO underfunded
 - c. Underfunding hitting all areas of USPTO
 - 2. Andy led a discussion to facilitate the upcoming meeting between Undersecretary Kappos and the PTDLA Executive Board

#####Discussion#####

- I. Who are we?
 - A. 1871 Depository Libraries Established
 - B. 1977 1st Annual meeting
 - C. 1983 PDLAC (PTDLA) founded
 - D. Librarians across the country and different types of libraries assisting inventors, researchers and academics with patent and trademark information
 - E. Local contact for patent Office
 - F. Face of USPTO
 - G. New libraries and those with a variety of experience
- II. What do we do?
 - A. Independent Inventors
 - 1. Effective searching, etc. saves Patent Examiner's time
 - B. We network with others around the world
 - C. Outreach—collaborating with agencies, inventor fairs, genealogists, students
 - D. Promote the USPTO
 - E. Set up community events
- III. Why are we important?
 - A. Technology—but people don't know who to use it, search it
 - B. Classification is not intuitive
 - C. Boost Applications by working with

1. Independent Inventors
2. University Tech Transfer office
3. Academics
4. Students interested in patents

IV. What must we do?

- A. Keep up with technology
- B. Keep up with law and how it applies, e.g. Bilsky Decision
- C. Continue Outreach
- D. Communication

V. Training Seminar

- A. Very important
 1. To refresh and keep up-to-date
- B. Should include not only systems and tools of researchers but also a basic understanding of the law
- C. Webinar is not effective
 1. Face to Face interaction very important as well as immersion
- D. Our Institutions are committed to our attendance

VI. Additional Comments

- A. CASSIS access needs to be improved, possibly through the Internet
- B. Website needs to continue to improve for independent inventors
- C. Access to *.pdfs are important to researchers
- D. Much of indexing and database interface has not improved
 1. Other vendors and patent offices introducing new patent search systems.

VII. What else could we contribute?

- A. Our knowledge of independent inventors
 1. What they find useful
 2. How they search
 3. How they find ???
- B. Our knowledge as information professionals about how effective searches can be performed and presented.

#####End of Discussion#####

III. Informal poll: When would the best time be for a seminar? All present said Spring.

IV. Election

- A. Keyed around seminar and as well as the bylaws.
- B. The elections were postponed therefore, but will be held soon.

Respectfully submitted,

Marian Armour-Gemmen