MINUTES OF THE IPLAC ANNUAL MEETING

MAY 17, 2022

# CALL TO ORDER

## The meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m. by President Erin Lothson at IPLAC’s first virtual Annual Meeting held via videoconference. A quorum was present.

# PRESIDENT’S REPORT

## President Lothson provided the President’s Report.

## President Lothson reported on three key areas of focus: (1) Laser-focused on DEI; (2) The Year of Creating Opportunities for Others; and (3) Back to the Basics.

## Regarding the first goal of being laser-focused on DEI, President Lothson noted several accomplishments. For example, this year, there were the most diverse members on the Board in IPLAC’s history. We also have the most diverse committee leadership base. We also believe that we have the first chief DEI officer serving on the board of officers.

## Regarding the second opportunity of creating opportunities for others, President Lothson noted that we had several new members as speakers and a young member completing an amicus brief. She encouraged our leaders to keep providing opportunities for others.

## Regarding the third goal of back to the basics, President Lothson noted her intention to run IPLAC as a business. She noted that IPLAC was revenue-positive this year. There was substantial foundational work on the back-end regarding the website database structure. Vice President Prommer led the efforts with a web designer to update the look and feel of the website.

## President Lothson also thanked the sponsors for their generous sponsorships.

# OFFICERS’ REPORTS

## Secretary Joe Janas gave the Secretary’s Report. Secretary Janas requested and received approval of the 2021 Annual Meeting Minutes.

## Treasurer Matthew Kelly gave the Treasurer’s Report. Treasurer Kelly provided a summary of our balances over the last three fiscal years. We ended the year at approximately $35,000 above where we were last year. The long-term savings at Northern Trust have not been touched and stand at $160,000. Several events that are traditionally revenue-negative were revenue-neutral or positive.

# IPLAC CREATOR OF THE YEAR PRESENTATION

## Creator of the Year Committee Chair Rathna Koka presented the Creator of the Year award to Felicia Ferrone, an award-winning industrial designer. Ms. Ferrone’s glassware designs have been featured in several films over the past years. Her designs have also received press coverage in many prominent magazines. Ms. Ferrone has received numerous utility and design patents for her creations.

## Remarks were made by Felicia Ferrone. Ms. Ferrone thanked IPLAC for extending the award. Ms. Ferrone presented images of many of her works and described her background. She also noted some of her patents.

## President Lothson thanked Board member Dunstan Barnes for nominating Ms. Ferrone.

# SCHOLARSHIP AND AWARDS

## IPLAC Foundation Officer Paul Juettner gave a brief history of the foundation.

## Mr. Juettner also announced that since we cannot have the recipients with us in person because of the COVID-19 pandemic, we will celebrate and recognize the scholarship recipients at a later time.

## Ms. Simmons announced the following recipients of the Scholarship Awards.

### Kara Simmons of Brooks College Prep and Corina Wong of Whitney Young Magnet High School (Kara and Corina are the recipients of the Ronald J. LaPorte Memorial Scholarship Award funded by Mrs. Jill LaPorte);

#### The Ronald J. LaPorte Memorial Scholarship was established in memory of IPLAC’s 108th President by his widow, Jill LaPorte. Mr. LaPorte was a highly regarded patent attorney, who worked for many years at Kraft Foods. He was a leader in both the scientific and legal communities. This scholarship is awarded annually by the IPLAC Educational Foundation to a student who excels in scholarship, leadership, service, and character.

### Anwar Ahmad of Foreman College and Career Academy (Anwar is the recipient of the Delores K. Hanna Memorial Scholarship);

#### Delores K. Hanna was a talented trademark lawyer, a 1952 graduate of Chicago-Kent IIT College of Law, and served as IPLAC’s first woman president in 1984. The Delores Hanna estate donated the funds for the scholarship.

### Charles Schultz of Northside College Prep High School (Charles is the recipient of the Kirkland & Ellis Honorary Scholarship);

### Amer Dzankovic of Von Steuben High School;

### Nellija Musajeva of Carl Schurz High School; and

### Lily Woo of Walter Payton College Prep School.

## Mr. Juettner recognized the members of the Foundation and thanked them for their work, with a particular thank you to Alisa Simmons, Matthew Jorge, Tanya Miari, Julie Langdon, Jomarie Fredericks, Janet Marvel, and Debbie Wright for their work on selecting scholarship recipients.

# ELECTIONS

## The Nominating Committee nominates the following IPLAC members as Officers and Board members for the upcoming 2022-2023 Board:

## Nominees for Officers - 2022-2023:

## President: Tiffany D. Gehrke

## President-Elect: Peter J. Prommer

## Vice President: Wasim Bleibel

## Secretary: Laura Schaefer

## Nominees for the Board of Managers - 2022-2023: Azuka Dike

## Mary Fetsco

## Judy He

## Kwan Lee

## Selena Spritz

## President Lothson, as current President, will automatically succeed to the office of Immediate Past President.

## Tiffany Gehrke, as current President-Elect, will automatically succeed to the office of President.

## Peter Prommer, as current Vice President, will automatically succeed to the office of President-Elect.

## Matthew Kelly will continue as Treasurer.

## Atanu Das will continue as Chief DEI Officer.

## Wasim K. Bleibel, George Jonas, Anisha Mehta, and Libby O’Neill will continue in their second year as Board members.

## President Lothson requested and received approval from the membership for the above-listed slate as Officers and Board members for the upcoming year. President Lothson reported that, pursuant to IPLAC Bylaws, the electronic votes submitted through the IPLAC website would be combined with the quorum of members live on the virtual meeting.

## President Lothson thanked Immediate Past President Marc Richards for his excellent service, having served as President during difficult times of the pandemic.

# AWARDS TO OUTGOING OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS

## President Lothson thanked the outgoing Officers and Board, Marc Richards (Immediate Past President), Joe Janas (Secretary) and retiring Board Members Anisha Metha, Elizabeth O’Neill, and Laura Beth Miller.

## President Lothson announced the Committee of the Year. Congratulations to the Website Committee (Mary Fetsco and Rachel Miller).

# NEW PRESIDENT’S COMMENTS

## New President Tiffany Gehrke presented brief remarks. She thanked IPLAC’s past leadership for the opportunity to serve as president. She thanked Past President Lothson. President Gehrke thanked the Board and Committees for all of their work all year long, and in particular in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

## President Gehrke listed the following priorities for the 2022-23 year in IPLAC. She noted that she hopes for committees to host two events per year and noted goals regarding speakers and topics.

## President Gehrke also asked members to make four new connections in IPLAC this year.

## President Gehrke will continue the sponsorship program and encouraged firms to become sponsors.

## Finally, President Gehrke noted the following two upcoming events: tomorrow’s Trade Secret Summit and Field Day on June 23, 2022.

# ADJOURNMENT

## The meeting was adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

# Respectfully submitted,

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# Joe Janas