

Unapproved minutes of the February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2002 Board of Directors Meeting.

HOUSTON AREA LEAGUE OF PC USERS, INC.  
MINUTES OF February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2002  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
4543 Post Oak Place  
Houston, Texas

Any corrections, changes, additions to these minutes will be noted in the next month's minutes when the minutes are approved by the Board.

ATTENDEES:

Officers

President Robert Gunn  
First Vice President - SIGs Mike Mashburn  
Vice President - Communications Jay Thomas  
Vice President - Programs Josie Duffey  
Treasurer Wes Leggett  
Membership Secretary Sharon O'Fiel  
Recording Secretary Anne Sipes

Directors:

Michelle Annis  
Norman Blaylock  
Bret Branon                      Absent  
Joe A. Brown                      Absent  
John P. Chambers  
Stephen Cravey                      Absent  
Scott Doctor  
William A Goetschius  
Monte Goodman  
Robert P Grefe  
Donald McGowan                      Absent  
Joseph E Morris Jr  
Mike Novominsky                      Absent  
David R. Pausky                      Absent

Parliamentarian: Marilyn Gore

- 1            **i.        CALL TO ORDER AT 7:07 PM**
- 2            Robert Grefe made a motion ( **motion010202** ) to approve the Minutes of the January
- 3            3<sup>rd</sup>, 2002 Board of Directors Meeting.
- 4            The motion passed.

5           **II.     REPORTS**

6           The President reported that we now have more than 470 HALNet clients signed up for  
7           e-mail filtering. He also stated that he was beta testing a new product that would  
8           significantly reduce spam and appeared to catch dictionary attacks within a few  
9           addresses.

10          Bob Grefe asked about in-house virus.

11          The President stated that in-house virus would be dealt with.

12          The VP-SIGs presented his report.(**Attachment: sig-report-02-2002.pdf**)

13          The VP Communications presented his report. (**Attachment 1**).

14          There was some discussion of advertising and promotion. The amount of work  
15          required to maintain the aDSL customers was also discussed.

16          The VP Programs reported that there is a Super Saturday event planned for March 9<sup>th</sup>,  
17          2002. She said that the event will include “Powder Puff Computers”. She said that  
18          she did not want to tell us much because she did not want to ruin the surprise.

19          The Treasurer Presented his report (**Attachment 2**).

20          Mike Mashburn presented the Rules Committee Report. He stated that the proposed  
21          bylaws were completed and ready to be placed in the March issue of the HAL-PC  
22          Magazine. He stated that the malcontents were already coming out. He asked the  
23          Board to support the new bylaws. He stated that the future of HAL-PC looks bleak  
24          without these changes.

25          The resignations were presented to the Board (**Attachment 3**)..

26          There was discussion of finding people to do some of the work that Marvin Kaiser had  
27          been doing.

28           **III.     UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

29           **IV.     NEW BUSINESS**

30          Mike Mashburn made a motion ( **motion020202** ) to call a Special Meeting of the  
31          Members for the purpose of voting on the Bylaws changes, to be held on Saturday  
32          April 6, 2002; and that the Election Committee be charged with administering the  
33          voting on this matter. (**Attachment Motion-rules-0202.pdf**).

34          The motion passed by acclamation.

35          The members of the Board of Directors discussed sending Joe Bown a get well card.

36        **V.     ADJOURN**

37        Bob Grefe made a motion ( **motion030202** )to adjourn.

38        The February 7th, 2002 Board of Directors Meeting adjourned at 7:44 pm.

39        Respectfully Submitted,

40        Anne Sipes

41        Recording Secretary

## Attachment 1

HAL-PC Vice-President of Communications  
Report to the Board of Directors, 7 February 2002

### Magazine

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I am advised by our volunteer magazine publisher, Meredith Foster, that the March issue of the HAL-PC Magazine will likely contain an additional 16 pages to accommodate the proposed bylaws. I have requested that the print run be reduced by 500 issues to 13,000 as a means of partially compensating for the additional cost.

### Internet

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Based on a number of questions and comments that I have received, I felt it might be helpful if I took a bit of time here to explain some "ISP Economics 101". A significant cost for an ISP operation is the cost of the lines by which the individual users connect to the ISP. The single largest monthly check written at HAL-PC, approximately \$19,000 is to Southwestern Bell for the PRI lines over which we accept calls from our dial-in users. That amount of money buys sufficient capacity to accommodate approximately 8,000 "average" users since they are not all connected at the same time. Additionally, rather costly pieces of equipment called "terminal servers" which contain the hundreds of modems must be owned and maintained. With ADSL, on the other hand, the communications link over we exchange data with our users costs us a little over \$3,200/month and has the capacity to serve up to 4,000 users. Additionally, with ADSL, no costly terminal servers and modems are needed, only a capable router with an ATM DS-3 Interface card. What is missing here is volume. As we build ADSL user volume, revenue will increase while the cost to provide, with the exception of some additional administrative & accounting overhead for each new user, should remain roughly the same. Despite the slightly lower monthly cost of ADSL from HAL-PC's HALNet, we still do not have the 800 to 1000 ADSL users needed to make the numbers work. I am told that the biggest stumbling block is the cost of the required ADSL modem. As more and more people decide to switch to us from another ISP where the modem has been provided in exchange for a 12-month commitment, our numbers should again begin to grow. Currently, we serve approximately 7800 users with fewer than 400 served via ADSL.

### Advertising

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No new advertising has been placed or contracted for since the last meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay Thomas,  
Vice-President / Communications

## Attachment 2

HAL-PC Treasurer's Report February 2002

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HAL-PC begins the month with no significant outstanding debt and a balance of \$139,126 in the Bank of America cash account and with \$752,230 in the Prudential Securities money market account. This transfer of funds was accomplished in a safe and prudent manner with concern for the safety of HAL-PC's funds a primary concern.

My current plan is to move these funds into virtually "no risk" U.S. Government Insured investment vehicles with staggered maturities.

I am advised by Blazek & Vetterling, HAL-PC's outside auditors, that the audit is nearing completion. There is to be a presentation of the results upon completion.

Respectfully submitted,

Wesley L. Leggett,  
Treasurer

### Attachment 3

From: mllj@hal-pc.org  
Subject: resign  
To: bod

01/10/02 09:58

bod and committee's

As of Jan 10-2002 I Marvin Kaiser resign from the board of director's and committee's, this is a personal reason and if I do any thing, it will be to teach a SIG, at least I know I can make pogress.

Marvin  
Kaiser

From: "Brian Sadler" <[bsadler@houston.rr.com](mailto:bsadler@houston.rr.com)>  
Subject: Resignation from the Board of Directors at HAL-PC  
To: "Board of Directors" <[bod@hal-pc.org](mailto:bod@hal-pc.org)>

Sun 10:02

Due to increased time constraints from my employer and also from classes, I have chosen to resign my position on the board of directors at the Houston Area League of PC Users, Inc.

I regret that I have not been able to spend the time necessary to fulfill my duties at HAL-PC of late. I feel it only fair to make way for someone else that may have the time to fulfill the responsibilities of the position.

I wish HAL-PC the best in its future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Brian Sadler

To : Ann Sipes, Recording Secretary  
From : Mike Mashburn, First VP (SIGs)  
Date : January 29, 2002  
Re : SIG Report

NEW SIG - Visual Studio .NET

I would like to thank the MCSE SIG and its Leader Joanne Ballato for building 4 new PC and making them available for use in LAB 1. The PC's were purchased with funds contributed by the SIG members.

Motion

Whereas the HAL-PC Board of Directors has charged the Rules Committee with preparing revisions to the HAL-PC Bylaws to implement changes recommended by the Audit Committee and the United Way Management Assistance Program.

And, whereas the Rules Committee has completed its charge and is prepared to report the proposed Bylaws changes to the membership by publication in the March 2002 issue of the HAL-PC Magazine.

Be it resolved that the Board of Directors of HAL-PC calls a Special Meeting of the Members for the purpose of voting on the Bylaws changes to be held on Saturday April 6, 2002; and that the Election Committee be charged with administering the voting on this matter.

Submitted by,  
Mike Mashburn  
Chair, Rules Committee