IVES CONCERT PARK

CHARLES IVES AUTHORITY FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

A Nonprofit Organization

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Minutes Board of Directors Meeting, August 20, 2014

To: Mayor Mark D. Boughton and Members of the Charles Ives Authority for the Performing Arts Board of Directors

Re: Minutes of the Ives Authority Board of Directors meeting held August 20, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m. The members were recorded as:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Greenberg, Anthony Vournazos, Gina Marcus, Fernando Jimenez, Sherri Hill, Frank Herbert, Noel Roy Jr., Tanya Wulff Truax,

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Brett DeWeese, Ellen Cavallo Buccitti

ALSO PRESENT: Phyllis Cortese, Executive Director; Sophia Vournazos, Office Manager; Sean Loughran, WCSU

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: After motion by Gina Marcus, seconded by Tanya Wulff Truax, the minutes from the previous meeting were unanimously approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Steve Greenberg

- Steve provided an update on LiveNation and Jimmy Koplik. Unfortunately, the governor did not attend the Moody Blues concert, but the mayor did. There will be a meeting with WCSU as soon as possible to discuss future plans. The challenge is to get things rolling quickly so a viable season can be put together for next summer. The concern is that some of the partners may drag their feet and Jimmy Koplik will go elsewhere to develop a boutique venue.

P.O. Box 2957 Danbury, CT 06813-2957
PHONE: 203.837-9226 FAX: 203.837.9230
WWW.IVESCONCERTPARK.COM

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT, con't.

- Another option is to run primarily festivals with Townsquare Media. Or go back to doing business with Premier. The biggest problem is our old infrastructure, which possibly could be overcome by using the dressing rooms in the new WCSU VPAC building – which would benefit both the Ives and WCSU.
- Finances are tough.
- We need to review RKE as a vendor because that is a significant portion of our expenses and also patron and tour complaints about sound quality are increasing.
- The Ives has survived and will continue to survive, but we have challenges that can't be ignored. Our facility is outdated.
- Phyllis and Sophia have done a phenomenal job this year and we have to take advantage of opportunities and go full speed ahead.
- Steve is working with the mayor to examine the lease closely and both want the university on board. After the meeting at WCSU, Steve expects to have a direction to report to the board, and whatever direction that is, we will all paddle together.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT: Phyllis Cortese

- Phyllis indicated that at the Live Nation and Richter & Cegan architect walk-thru last week, both architects came up with a $20-million estimate for the necessary infrastructure upgrades.
- We also have to consider sound mitigation. She explained recent sound issues at the Oakdale and how Ives needs to be sensitive to the neighbors in this regard.
- Phyllis also added that we want to engage WCSU students more and that the celebrity series concerts provide the revenue stream to enable the student collaborations.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Anthony Vournazos

- Tony reviewed the balance sheets, including A/R and A/P.
- He projected that we will be short approximately $20K by the end of May.
- He stated that the Friends of the Ives account currently holds about $48K.

APPROVAL OF TREASURER'S REPORT: After motion by Sherri Hill, seconded by Frank Herbert, the Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved.

After motion by Fernando Jimenez, seconded by Frank Herbert, the meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

The next meeting is Wednesday, September 24, in the WCSU Visual and Performing Arts Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Sherri Hill

Sherri Hill, Secretary