



CHARLES IVES AUTHORITY FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

A Nonprofit Organization

Minutes Board of Directors Meeting, September 24, 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 Sept. 24, 2014

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BY: LK

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. The members were recorded as:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Greenberg, Sherri Hill, Frank Herbert, Noel Roy Jr., Tanya Wulff Truax

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Brett DeWeese

ALSO PRESENT: Phyllis Cortese, Executive Director

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: After motion by Noel Roy Jr., seconded by Frank Herbert, the minutes from the previous meeting were unanimously approved.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Steve Greenberg

- Steve reported that he has been talking with some area politicians to see what we can do to move forward with seeking state funding for improvements at the venue.
- He said we've done a great job to make Ives a profitable, viable entity and there is still more work to be done, including fixing the gazebo roof and upgrading the facilities or working out an arrangement with the university to use green room/dressing rooms in the new Visual and Performing Arts Center. We need to focus on improving the facilities for artists and upgrading the light and sound.

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- Steve believes we should go for the grant with or without Live Nation as a partner, and ask for something in the ballpark of \$5 million, which would probably be more agreeable to all the parties involved. Trying to cover 3,000 seats for \$20 million is probably not reasonable, in his opinion. He wants to get the lobbyists here to start planning the ask.
- Among the options being considered is the construction of a new stage at what is now the back of the lawn seating, facing the opposite way from the current stage. This precipitated an explanation from Phyllis about local sound ordinances and issues being faced by the Oakdale and similar venues with neighbors complaining about excessive sound from the audio systems.
- Steve said we have to correct Live Nation's punch list of four items needing attention, or they won't make their lobbyist available.
- Tanya stated that she feels that fixing the existing gazebo should be a priority before looking to spend funds on other improvements. She also believes that Ives would have a difficult time staging 15 major events that Live Nation wants, especially in terms of volunteer staffing.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS REPORT: Phyllis Cortese

- Phyllis announced that she had received several grants: \$8,900 from the State of Connecticut and \$3,000 from the Danbury Cultural Commission.
- She reiterated that the issues Live Nation is raising about the infrastructure need to be addressed in order to go forward in any capacity with them.
- Phyllis stated that the lease agreement with WCSU expires in May 2015 and work will have to begin on negotiating the renewal.
- Phyllis provided a review/recap of Connecticut on Tap and the Bluegrass Festival.
- She announced that the Friends of the Ives has postponed the Fun Run and that there will be a season wrap-up BBQ at the gazebo.

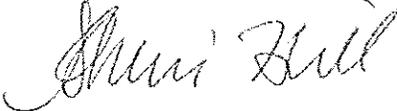
- The topic of the gazebo roof was revisited and an extended discussion about that took place, including a discussion by Frank about hanging speakers and other equipment. He believes we should purchase the equipment we currently rent from RKE in order to save money in the long run.
- Frank also shared his thoughts on strengthening the relationship between the Ives Authority and WCSU, and offered board members a tour of the new Visual and Performing Arts Center in which the meeting was held.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Because Tony Vournazos was not present at the meeting, the financials and approval of the Treasurer's Report was tabled until the next meeting.

After motion by Sherri Hill, seconded by Frank Herbert, the meeting was adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

The next meeting is Wednesday, November 19.

Respectfully submitted,



Sherri Hill, Secretary