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DANBURY TOWN CLERK

## Charles Ives Authority for the Performing Arts

Ives Authority Board Meeting  
Wednesday, April 29, 2009 - 6:00 PM  
WCSU Student Center - Room 315

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 April 29, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m. The members were recorded as:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Steve Greenberg, Tony Cassano, Frank Herbert, Paul Sirios and Lisa Trombetta

ALTERNATES PRESENT: Gina Marcus

ABSENT: Koryoe Anim-Wright and Fernando Jiminez

ALSO PRESENT: Executive Director, Phyllis Cortese

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Tony Cassano made a motion to accept the minutes. Gina Marcus seconded the motion.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Steve Greenberg

Steve Greenberg talked to Keith (promoter) about upcoming season and is disappointed because more acts have not been booked through them. Steve doesn't feel comfortable accepting Sponsors' money because of weak line-up. Keith said that when West Conn refused to move High School Graduations for possible booking Michael MacDonald's agent was very upset and Keith feels it could have affected other possible bookings.

Jackson Brown is firm. There are four other bookings that are tentative. Acts are cancelling tours because of economy.

The board feels that WestConn doesn't consider the Ives a priority – wishes they would be more flexible.

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## **Charles Ives Authority for the Performing Arts**

Paul Sirois ' concern is opening Park and not using it. He suggested shortening the season to six weeks. This problem should be discussed and resolved in two weeks.

Paul wants to talk to Keith (promoter) about the Ives exploring other acts and not being exclusive to him. Bob Connor may be able to help with other promoters.

Steve Greenberg had meeting with Union Savings Bank (USB). Ives may be receiving one-half amount of money initially committed.

Frank Herbert feels Midsummer's Night Dream should come back this season.

Frank is hoping to have productions of Reynard, the Fox and The Tempest. He thinks it will cost \$10,000 to produce shows.

Steve Greenberg met with Mayor. Ted Cutsumptas and Wayne Sheppard will help Phyllis with sponsors.

### TREASURER'S REPORT: Paul Sirois'

Went over balance sheet

\$72,000 from City will come in July.

Current Assets are \$44,000

\$15,000 is restricted

\$30,000 for operation costs

We can't count on sponsors at this point

Operating at net loss of \$50,000 – Paul suggests we reassess situation in two weeks

Bob Connor wants to start cleaning park asap

It was suggested that we contract Bob Connor to work for two weeks to get started. Paul doesn't want to sign 32 week contract with Bob without a reasonable season in sight. We will solicit Bob's expertise in booking acts.

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## **Charles Ives Authority for the Performing Arts**

Profit was close to \$70,000 last year for beverages. It will be much less this year with reduction of shows.

Steve Greenberg made a motion to accept Treasurer's Report. Tony Cassano seconded the motion.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Phyllis Cortese

Went over status of sponsorships. Economic climate is impacting sponsorships.

Beverages – We will be using Northeast this year as opposed to DiCello .

Phyllis went over events confirmed.

Phyllis moved forward with Sabrina's Encore Productions. They should be very successful. She will use her own technical people. Phyllis moved forward with Sabrina when Keith pulled out on concert dates.

We will get many complimentary tickets for Sabrina's Encore Productions. This hopefully will be attractive to Union Savings Bank.

Events should be underwritten so it doesn't cost Ives's money

Proposed circus is completely underwritten – University will not support animal acts.

Gina Marcus volunteered to head a committee to develop Friends of Ives.

Reviewed Insurance quotes. This year's quote is considerably less than what was paid last year.

Liquor permit was received.

Budget revision needs to be approved to submit to City.

## OTHER BUSINESS

Frank Herbert needs commitment from Board before making proposal to WestConn about producing Fine Arts shows. \$5,100 owed to Ives from Fine Arts ticket sales using WCSU Box Office in 08 would give Frank leverage in presentation.

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## **Charles Ives Authority for the Performing Arts**

Paul Sirois proposed that we move forward with \$5,100 if this amount will cover one show and start production of another show.

Steve Greenberg proposed giving Union Savings Bank a private performance of "A Midsummer's Night Dream".

Paul Sirois made a motion to have Frank Herbert propose two performances of Midsummer's Night Dream plus one show for Union Savings bank. Tony Cassano seconded the motion.

The board should take chance on Frank Herbert moving forward with The Tempest and Reynard the Fox,

Frank will come back with more information in two weeks.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 20, 2009.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Trombetta, Secretary