

Performing Arts Center Board Minutes 07/01/2010

SIMSBURY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER BOARD
SPECIAL MEETING
JULY 1, 2010

I. CALL TO ORDER

Dave Ryan called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. In addition to Mr. Ryan, Board members Leo Collins, Janet Goman, Sharon Lawson, Ken Mason, Greg Piecuch and Adam Sharaf were present. Also in attendance were David C. Bell, Venue Manager, and Gerry Toner, Director of Parks and Recreation. Guests included Joe Patrina, Attorney Scott Franklin, Jeff Tindall and Karen Cortes.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Piecuch moved to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2010 meeting. Mr. Mason seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

III. REVIEW AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF THE REVISED LITTLE HOUSE PROPOSAL

Mr. Patrina presented a timeline for the New England Fest. He noted that the start time had been pushed back an hour to avoid the heat of the day. He also noted that rather than having one long segment of music, followed by a long talk-show segment, followed by a second long music segment, he was intending to break the event up into more segments of shorter length. Mr. Ryan stated that the Town Attorney's advice is for the Board to

avoid discussing or making its decision based upon the content of speech, but that public safety and process are issues that may be discussed. Mr. Patrino noted that he was considering having Mike Huckabee as one of the featured political guests at the show.

Mr. Bell was asked for his opinion as to whether there were substantial or material changes between Mr. Patrino's original proposal and the ongoing discussions that were taking place between himself and Mr. Patrino versus what Mr. Patrino outlined at the current meeting. Mr. Bell stated that he did not think there were material changes. He believed that the revisions to a performance's timetable were common and that the substance of the event was unchanged. Board members offered their own opinions on this question, some of which differed. It was also mentioned that certain members of the Board of Selectmen had raised concerns. Those members were identified to be Ms. Glassman, Ms. Heavner and Mr. Hampton.

Mr. Sharaf moved to reject the proposal and to withdraw approval. Mr. Mason seconded the motion. The motion failed on a vote of 2-5. Voting in favor of the motion were Mr. Mason and Mr. Sharaf. Voting against the motion were Mr. Ryan, Mr. Collins, Mrs. Goman, Ms. Lawson, and Mr. Piecuch.

Members of the Board continued to discuss whether there were substantial or material changes between Mr. Patrino's original proposal and what was being outlined at the current meeting. Board members also discussed whether town staff or the police department had raised any concerns thus far concerning public safety. No one was aware of any public safety concerns having been raised.

Board members discussed whether a motion to approve the "revised" proposal was appropriate if they were of the opinion that there had been no substantial or material revisions. If the Board members were of the opinion that there were no revisions to

approve, then there would be no further business before the Board. Mr. Sharaf stated that in light of the failure of his motion, he did not feel that there was any further business before the Board.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Piecuch moved to adjourn at 6:43 p.m. Mrs. Goman seconded the motion. The motion passed on a vote of 5-2. Voting in favor of the motion were Mr. Collins, Mrs. Goman, Ms. Lawson, Mr. Piecuch and Mr. Sharaf. Voting against were Mr. Mason and Mr. Ryan.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gregory W. Piecuch
Vice-Chairman