

**Sports Advisory Board
Quinnipiac University
TD Bank Sports Center – 1st Floor Media Room
305 Sherman Avenue
Hamden, CT 06518
Wednesday, May 26, 2010
9:00 a.m.**

Meeting Minutes

Present: Jim Abromaitis, Capital City Economic Development Authority
Lynn Carlotto, Arena at Harbor Yard
Tom Chiappetta, Fairfield County Sports Commission
Dana Ciaifi, Pilot Pen Tennis
Robert Doherty, Special Olympics CT
Gene Doris, Fairfield University
Bill Humphreys, BikeGuy
Curt Jensen, Greater Hartford CVB
Jim Keener for Patricia Meiser, University of Hartford
Jack McDonald, Quinnipiac University
Chuck Steedman, Northland AEG
Andrew Weber, CT Tigers
John Willi, New Britain Rock Cats

Excused: Skip Barber, Lime Rock Park
Scott Ciecko, State Department of Higher Education
Wayne Dean, Yale University
Charlie Dowd, Dodd Stadium – Connecticut Defenders
Ron Drapeau, Connecticut State Golf Association
Jill Ferraiolo, Connecticut State University System
Robert Goughan, Bridgeport Blue Fish
Oz Griebel, MetroHartford Alliance
Nathan Grube, Travelers Championship
Kim Hart, Office of Policy and Management
Jeffrey Hathaway, University of Connecticut
Rick Hazelton, Trinity College
Larry McHugh, Middlesex Chamber of Commerce
Ann Miron, Sacred Heart University
William Mudano, Connecticut Sports Management Group, Inc.
Michael Murtha, Athletic Department Mohegan Sun
Marie O'Brien, Connecticut Development Authority
Joe Oros, Connecticut Department of Economic & Community Development
Larry Perosino, Connecticut Boxing Commission
Gloria Ragosta, Connecticut Conference of Independent Colleges
Michael Roth, Wesleyan University
Michael Savage, CT Interscholastic Athletic Conference
Renea Topp, Lime Rock Park
Sara Willcox, Pilot Pen Tennis
Joyce Wong, Eastern Connecticut State University

Guests/Staff: Karen Senich, Commission on Culture & Tourism; and Susan Dombroski, Hilton Mystic

I. **Call to Order**

Chairman Abromaitis called the meeting to order.

II. **Approval of Minutes**

On a motion made by Lynn Carlotta, second by Curt Jensen, the Sports Advisory Board approved the minutes of January 12, 2010 as circulated. (Y-11, N-0)

III. **Discussion of Legislative Session (Senate Bill 455) – Chairman Abromaitis Reporting**

Background summary

The Sports Advisory Board participated in an informational hearing of the Commerce Committee on February 9th. The Commerce Committee endorsed the SAB's concept of a Sports Corporation and recommended it be turned into a Bill. The SAB drafted a Bill and was called to the Commerce Committee for a public hearing on the Bill. The Bill was unanimously endorsed and was moved out of the Commerce Committee. It was then sent to Government Administration and Elections Committee (GAE) which moved it to the Senate. The Bill was placed on the Senate calendar and brought on to the floor where it was discussed and amended.

The Amendment would have subjected the Corporate Members of the Board and its employees to the rules of ethics that both the SAB Chair and the Executive Director of the Commission and all state employees are required to follow, along with other stringent reporting requirements including submitting a statement of personal financial interests to the State.

The Bill made it out of the Senate and went to the House of Representatives where it never made it to the floor. This brings us to where we are today, and raises the question of where the Board wants to go from here? The reason the Board put forth this legislation was to have the State's endorsement when soliciting to the various sports/sporting entities to bring their events to the State.

A lengthy discussion ensued with regards to next steps.

A recommendation was made to send a letter to the Board members that will give a brief overview of what happened during the legislation session and what will be happening during the interim. The consensus of the group in attendance was to seek out legal counsel to assist with putting together a model that makes the most sense for the structure and the best course of action(s) from a private group's perspective, develop a survey based on those recommendations, and clearly define the next plan of action based on the responses from the survey.

Jack MacDonald volunteered to contact legal counsel.

IV. **Old Business**

None at this time.

V. **New Business**

None at this time.

VI. **Next Scheduled Meeting**

To be determined.