

Laconia Putnam Meeting
October 17, 2022

A meeting was called to order on Monday, October 17, 2022, at 1:25 pm, held at City Hall located on Beacon East Street in Room 200B with the following in attendance: Linda Peary, Jim Rogato, Betty Ballantyne, and our newest member Joanie Mercer.

This meeting called to prepare the Board to meet the Trust of Trustees for their quarterly meeting to be held the same day at 2:00 pm.

Linda prepared documentation of the breakdown for the operating expenses for each performance for the 2022 Spring & Fall Programs including 2 Divas and a Piano, Bachelors of Broadway, The Temptations Experience and the upcoming performance Blues Performer, Albert Cummings. This document is prepared to submit to the trustees. (See attached) Linda also has the copy of the letter sent to the Trustees when requesting \$70,000 in July 2022. (See attached)

Jim Rogato will be sharing the history of Putnam and as to where all our monies are targeted for the Community to the Trust of Trustees. Others are encouraged to participate with their thoughts and suggestions to the Trustees.

Collectively our concerns are the amount allocated to us for the fiscal year 2023. The amount to us, by the Trust of Trustee was \$40,000.00 versus the entitled amount allowed by law at a maximum of 7% of the last three-year averaged market value to be \$109,915.65. The \$40,000 was 2.7% of the three-year market value. Our letter of request was \$70,000. Not at all close to the allowable amount of \$109,915.65.

Based on our balance carried over for 2022 of \$64,677.82, the allocated amount of \$40,000, this allows \$104,677.82 for the 2023 fiscal year. Disbursed monies spent for 2022's fiscal year was \$89,911.94. We are to explain our processes for the shows held at the Laconia Colonial Theater, their management group Spectacle, upcoming performances along with the opportunity available to us when a person/group is brought to us sometime 18 months in advance, therefore our concerns for a cushion. We expect to disclose to the Trustees our monies for a cushion to be \$35,000 to \$40,000.

MICELLANEOUS: Submitted by Charles H Bradley, III was a thank you to Nellie Chamberlin, City Councilors who appointed and reappointed, to Scott Myers who was instrumental in securing appropriate funding for the Putnam Fund, also to his wife Marie, and the last 10 years Nancy Brown, Administrative Assistant. (See attached – 7 pages)

With no further business to come before the board, the meeting was adjourned at 1:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Ballantyne
Laconia Putnam Board/Secretary

August 14, 2021

CHARLES H. BRADLEY, III - MY THIRTY YEARS AS A MEMBER OF THE CITY OF LACONIA'S PERLEY AND ELLEN PUTNAM FREE LECTURE FUND

At the outset I want to thank Nellie Chamberlin, the City Councilors who appointed and re-appointed me over my 30 years and Scott Myers who was instrumental in securing appropriate funding for the Putnam Fund (PF) after an interminable five-year battle with the Trustees of the Trust Funds. Without the assistance of my lovely and loving wife, who was administrative assistant to two city managers during most of my term, the Putnam Fund never would have accomplished what we did. For the last 10 years, Nancy Brown, Administrative Assistant to the City Manager, has been indispensable in helping me with Putnam Fund issues.

During my first few years on the Putnam Fund, because of limited funding, we mainly funded requests by the School Department or local organizations like the Belknap Mill. In 1997, I felt the Fund had the resources to promote its own show for the community. That show was George Piehl, a well-known Broadway singer from the Manchester, NH area. The show was so successful, we brought him back again to the delight of city residents. That same year when I suggested Bobby Vee, three members on PF at the time said who is Bobby Vee? For that show at the LHS football field two thousand Bobby Vee fans delighted in hearing all his greatest hits. Bobby said to me the PF really has something here. I told him the PF was not interested in making money just providing free entertainment for the residents of the city. His sons said, "You are the first person we ever heard say that."

Seeing a need for a venue able to accommodate more city's residents, I approached the pastor at Sacred Heart Church (SHC), who agreed to allow us to have shows that were Church appropriate there because it could accommodate 750 attendees, where the LHS auditorium could only house 400. Father Adrian Longchamp's contribution to PF shows was so great, that upon his passing in 2020, the City Council dedicated a day to his memory.

The first show at SHC was Frank Patterson, known as the greatest living Irish Tenor and a popular star on PBS. That night was the first night, of many nights, SHC was packed to the gills with adoring fans. Frank, who had turned down an offer to play the Phantom on Broadway, sang many of the greatest Irish songs, including Danny Boy. He also sang some of the great songs from Broadway. Although I asked him to sing "The Phantom", he felt it was not an appropriate song in a Church.

Over the years I recommended to the other Putnam Fund members numerous shows I thought would be of interest to the Laconia community. We've had every one of the Irish Tenors, Shirley Austin Reeves (of the Shirelles), Peter Noone (Herman's Hermits), BJ Thomas, Judy Collins, Patti Page, and many other musical groups and authors like Gerald Charles Dickens

(great grandson of Charles Dickens). I've attached a list of many of the shows the Putnam Fund produced for the Laconia Community since I have been a member.

In the early years of my tenure, I served as promoter, contract reviewer, as well as dealing with the acts on the day of the performance. In more recent years, we've had two great agents—Julie Grant and her late husband David Connelly, who have done all the heavy lifting when it comes to contracts and dealing with the performers. David and Julie had long careers in the entertainment business. A great compliment made to me by David was “you really know your audience and what they like”. Even though I now had Julie and David's assistance, whenever one of the shows I promoted occurred, I always was on hand to make sure the day of the show went smoothly for all involved.

During my tenure, shows sponsored by the Putnam Fund were held in the High School auditorium, Middle School auditorium, Rotary Park, Belknap Mill, Opechee Park, Sacred Heart Church, and the city's elementary schools. It took 29 years, but in 2021, the Putnam Fund finally had a show in the Colonial Theatre. On September 4, 2021, I introduced “Jay and the Americans” to an extremely enthusiastic crowd in the newly renovated Theatre.

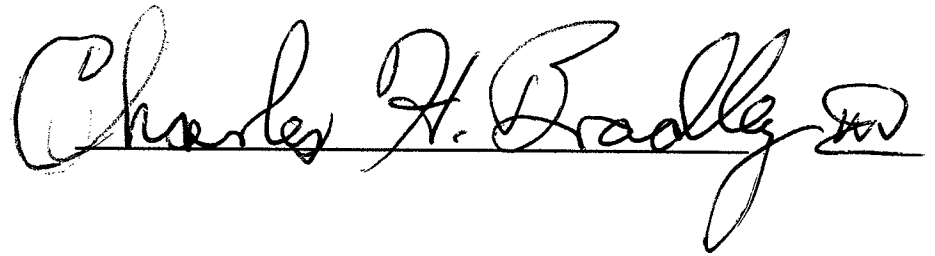
I can honestly say that one of my greatest experiences as a Putnam Fund member was seeing the smiling faces and hearing their words of appreciation as people exited one of the Putnam Fund shows. On more than one occasion I was informed by school staff of a life changing experience for a young person who was impacted by one of the school presenters the PF sponsored.

The following are some examples of the many positive comments I received after a Putnam Fund performance. One such example was Marnie Nixon, who was known as the “Ghost Voice of Hollywood” and gave a presentation on her theatrical experience. She was the singing voice for the lead actresses in such famous movies as “My Fair Lady”, “West Side Story”, “The King and I” and “An Affair to Remember”. One attendee told Marnie as she left the show “I have heard your singing voice in my head all my life. It is a great honor to meet you in person.” After the first “Shirley Austin Reeves” show at Opechee Park which was held on the 4th of July, 1998 to a crowd of several thousand, where the encores rolled on and on, Linda Peary, a Putnam Fund member, turned to me and said, “What are you going to do to top this?” In 2003, we had the “Judy Collins Show” at Sacred Heart Church. Show business professionals warned me the Putnam Fund should not have her because she was too difficult. After her free-range chicken dinner, as we walked over to the Church, Judy said, “What a lovely place to sing!” After the show, City Councilor Bownes who was in attendance said to me, “Charles, where have I been? I reviewed a list of Putnam Fund shows, simply amazing!” Even the Putnam Fund's current Chairman Jim Rogato learned to appreciate the greatness of the great Irish performers we had over the years, as well as singer impersonators such as Ted Vigil as John Denver.

As the sun sets on my Putnam Fund career, I am leaving Putnam Fund in the great hands of Julie Grant, Michael Yorkell and Spectacle. As with any transition, the opening of the Colonial

Theatre makes an unparalleled venue available for future shows, but it also presents the Putnam Fund members with new challenges. The greatest challenge is to maintain the audience size that the Putnam Fund achieved during my tenure. The new implementation of a ticket requirement, the requirement to use the computer to obtain a ticket and the Putnam Fund audience's unfamiliarity with the computer process and the standby line are issues which the Putnam Fund members must address.

I look forward to attending great Putnam Fund shows in the future with all seats in the Colonial Theatre occupied.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Charles H. Bradley" with a stylized flourish at the end. The signature is written over a horizontal line.

PUTNAM FUND SHOWS SINCE MY APPOINTMENT

1997

George Piehl (Stage One) (Laconia HS)
Broadway Songs

Bobby Vee Summer 1997 (Laconia HS Football Field)

1998

Bill Humphreys (Clarence Darrow) Feb. 6th, 1998 (LHS)

Shirley Austin Reeves July 4, 1998 (Opechee Park/City's 4th of July Celebration)

Cyndi Phillips (Patsy Cline) Sept. 18, 1998 (LHS)

Mel Harold (Edgar Allan Poe) Oct. 23, 1998 (LHS)

1999

Tony Pace (Singer & Entertainer) February 12, 1999 (LHS)

Rex Scouten (White House Curator) March 26, 1999 (LHS)

Cyndi Phillips (Patsy Cline) July 4, 1999 (Opechee Park/City's 4th of July Celebration)

2000

Frank Patterson (Irish Tenor) March 24, 2000 (Sacred Heart)

2001

Marni Nixon (Voice of Hollywood) April 28, 2001 (LHS)

Gerald Charles Dickens (A Christmas Carole) November 25, 2001 (LHS)

2002

The National Marionette Theatre (Beauty & the Beast) January 27, 2002 (LHS)

Chris Calloway (Daughter of Cab Calloway) April 5, 2002 (LHS)

Anthony Kearns (Irish Tenor) October 18, 2002 (Sacred Heart)

2003

The Spain Brothers	March 14, 2003 (LHS)
The US Air Force Band of Liberty	June 1, 2003 (LHS Gym)
Judy Collins	November 28, 2003 (Sacred Heart)

2005

Elizabeth von Trapp	September 16, 2005 (Sacred Heart)
Von Trapp Children	November 21, 2005 (Sacred Heart)

2006

Irish Sopranos	March 15, 2006 (Sacred Heart)
Letter from Mary Boswell thanking Putnam Fund for sponsoring summer series in Rotary Park	
The Floorlords	September 22, 2006 (LHS)
The Attesti Trio	November 28, 2006 (Sacred Heart)
National Marrisonette Theatre (Pinocchio)	October 27, 2006 (LHS)

2007

Tony Kenny's Ireland	March 31, 2007 (LHS)
Steve Lippia/Simply Sinatra	September 20, 2007 (Sacred Heart)
Eddie Carroll/Jack Benny	October 19, 2007 (LHS)
Jonathan Eig (author)	November 16, 2007 (Taylor Community)
Patti Page	December 18, 2007 (Sacred Heart)

2008

Tommy Fleming	March 7, 2008 (Sacred Heart)
From Broadway to Galway Ciaran Sheehan & Gay Willes	September 19, 2008 (Sacred Heart)

2014

British Invasion Tribute (and Julie Grant)	January 31, 2014 (LHS)
The Amazing Kreskin	April 12, 2014 (LHS)
An Evening of Nostalgia (Bel Airs, Julie Grant & Rockin Daddios)	September 12, 2014 (LHS)
John Rizzo (Author) "Company Man"	October 11, 2014 (LHS)
Blues Friday (Johnny a. & James Montgomery Band)	November 28, 2014 (LHS)

2015

Larry Frates "You are the Magic"	March 14-15, 2015
Motor City Magic	April 24, 2015 (LHS)
John McDermott (Irish Tenor)	September 11, 2015 (Sacred Heart)
Josh Logan (Singer from the show "The Voice")	October 9, 2015 (LHS)
James Cotton/Blues Show	November 20, 2015 (LHS)
The Four Freshman	December 11, 2015 (LHS)

2016

The History of Rock & Soul (Pauly & the Goodfellas)	April 1, 2016 (LHS)
Peter Noone (Herman's Hermits)	September 23, 2016 (Laconia Middle School)
Preston Shannon (King of Beale Street/Blues)	October 12, 2016 (?) (LHS)
Adam Trent (Magician)	October 28, 2016 (LHS)
St. Paul's Choir (Boston)	December 9, 2016 (Sacred Heart)

2017

- Jon Stetson (Mentalist) April 7, 2017 (LHS)
- Broadway Cast of Beatlemania September 22, 2017 (LHS)
- Arty Appel (Author) October 12, 2017 (Taylor Community)
"Casey"
- The Bird Dogs October 20, 2017 (LHS)
Everly Brother Tribute
- The Soul of a Legend November 17, 2017 (LHS)
(Charlie Huhn/Blues Show)
- John McDermott (Irish Tenor) December 1, 2017 (Sacred Heart)

2018

- David S. Brody (author) March 19, 2018 (Taylor Community)
"Westford Knight"
- Shirley Austin Reeves (Shirelles) April 14, 2018 (Laconia Middle School)
Jay Siegel & the Tokens
- Mary Wilson (Supremes) September 28, 2018 (LHS)
- MC Lars (Rapper) October 26, 2018 (LHS)
- Blues Friday November 9, 2018
(Jon Butcher & Sugar Ray and the Bluetones)

2019

- David S. Brody (author) February 20, 2019 (Taylor Community)
"The Swagger Sword"
- Richard Mood & Gordon Belsier March 8, 2019 (LHS)
(Canadian Fiddle & Guitar)
- Denny Laine (Moody Blues) April 12, 2019 (LHS)
- BJ Thomas September 13, 2019 (LHS)
- Ted Vigil October 18, 2019 (LHS)
(John Denver tribute)

2019 (Cont'd.)

Neal Bascomb (author) October 25, 2019 (Taylor Community)
(WWII Book)

Coco Montoya & Duke Robillard November 8, 2019 (LHS)
(Blues tribute)

2020

Everything on hold due to the coronavirus.

2021

Jay and the Americans September 4th, 2021 (Colonial Theatre/first major show in the newly
renovated theatre) Originally scheduled for April 24th 2020

Rockin Daddios September 10th (Rotary Park)

Rat Pack September 19th (Colonial Theatre)

Hart Keene (Magician) October 8, 2021 (Colonial Theatre)

Alex Kershaw (Author) November 5, 2021 (Belknap Mill)

Ronnie Earl & the Broadcasters November 27, 2021 (Colonial Theatre)

David Brody (author) November 29, 2021 (Belknap Mill)

2022

Bachelors of Broadway September 11, 2022 (Colonial Theatre)

** I also voted over the years to sponsor numerous shows held at the Belknap Mill and in the Laconia Schools which I have not listed.

The Perley and Ellen M. Putnam Free Lecture Fund 2022 Programs

9/11/22 Bachelors of Broadway

Artist Fee:	\$13,700.00
Backline:	\$ 2,000.00
Meal Buyout:	\$ 300.00
Rooms:	\$ 834.00
Advertising:	\$ 696.00
Hospitality:	\$ 73.14
Total:	\$17,603.14

10/2/22 The Temptations Experience

Artist Fee:	\$12,650.00
Sound & Lights:	\$ 2,500.00
Spectacle Fees:	\$ 1,770.00 (Pending)
Meal Buyout:	\$ 330.00
Rooms:	\$ 1,907.49
Advertising:	\$ 1,038.00
Hospitality:	\$ 139.81
Total:	\$20,335.30

11/11/22 Albert Cummings

Artist Fee:	\$ 3,500.00
Meal Buyout:	\$ 75.00
Rooms:	\$ TBD (3)
Advertising:	\$ TBD
Hospitality:	\$ TBD

Jay & The Americans

\$22,769.43

Ronnie Earl & The Broadcasters

\$13,904.61

Rat Pack

\$14,749.84

2 Divas and A Piano

\$12,354.72