

Cancellation by LaborFest Of Book Presentation By Randy Shaw

7/13/2009

In February of this year, Randy Shaw requested that he be able to make a book presentation on his book "Beyond The Fields" during Laborfest 2009 and we felt that this would be good for Laborfest and for working people.

Laborfest was later contacted by SEIU 1021 shop steward Nate Holmes who worked at the Tenderloin Housing Center THC at which Randy Shaw is executive director that he had been fired in violation of the union contract and had been discriminated against for his union activity.

This is a serious charge and Laborfest felt that this charge required some explanation from Randy Shaw about the circumstances and validity of these charges. We wrote to Randy Shaw and he denied that there were any union disputes and arbitrations between himself, the THC and SEIU1021 steward Nate Holmes.

We then received an NLRB document NLRB copy (Case # 20-CA-34150) that stated that Randy Shaw had agreed to go through the arbitration process with Nate Holmes. We also received a document from the former Human Resources Director Jaynie Lara stating that no employees of the THC can have any contact whatsoever with fired steward Nate Holmes or that disciplinary action would be taken against them by the agency. This is a violation of the NLRB rules and also is a violation of labor and human rights.

We also have been in touch with SEIU 1021 and they have stated to us that there is a grievance pending on Nate Holmes discharge by this agency.

In light of these facts, Laborfest has cancelled the Laborfest book presentation by Randy Shaw and informed him and Modern Times bookstore. We had hoped that this could have been resolved before this cancellation but the fact that Randy Shaw has stated in writing that there is no union grievance or dispute with Nate Holmes makes this impossible.

We apologize for the abrupt cancellation and hope that this matter is resolved so Nate Holmes can return to work as a worker and SEIU 1021 union shop steward.

LaborFest Organizing Committee
www.laborfest.net