

NIAGARA ERIE REGIONAL COALITION

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MEMORANDUM

To: Co-Chairs Clyde Burmaster & Barry Weinstein, MD

From: Tourism & Culture Chair David Lacki

Re: October 2007 Meeting

Date: December 7, 2007

The Niagara Erie Regional Coalition Tourism & Culture Subcommittee met October 31, 2007 at the Buffalo Niagara Convention & Visitors Bureau (BNCVB). Present for the meeting were subcommittee members Lacki and Percy.

New York State Music Fund:

The Big Easy in Buffalo series resumed in September with a performance by Jon Cleary & The Absolute Monster Gentlemen. Cleary's music education program was at City Honors in Buffalo.

The scheduled October 4 show by Eric Lindell was postponed until January 11, 2008 due to artist illness. This fills the date for Stanton Moore, who had to cancel due to band obligations.

In order to meet the artist requirement for the grant, the Joe Krown Organ Combo has been added to the Mardi Gras Jam. So, the revised series will feature the same number of artists and music education programs, but one fewer show (October).

The music education event for the December 6 Preservation Hall Jazz Band show will take place at the UB Center for the Arts, and will be open to all public, private, parochial, and charter schools (grade levels tba). Music Is Art is absorbing the additional costs at the Center, so admission will be free.

The virtual battle of the bands for the Mardi Gras Jam is underway. The winner of the battle will receive a private music education lesson from one of the bands, as well as an opening spot at the Mardi Gras Jam.

The series will take careful management and aggressive fundraising and marketing over its final months to ensure success.

Financially, without securing sponsors or grants, ticket revenue meant for instrument donation will have to go mostly for expenses. Therefore, it is critical for everyone to assist in the success of the project.

The Tourism & Culture Subcommittee reminds all members that this is their program, and encourages them to all attend some of the shows. We also still need sponsors for the Mardi Gras Jam and instrument donation, so please let us know of any contacts.

Other Topics:

There were no other topics discussed.