ADIRONDACK COAST CULTURAL ALLIANCE

Minutes of the October 10, 2012 Meeting

Ricky Laurin, Chair, convened the meeting at the Champlain Valley Transportation Museum at 8:00 am on Wednesday, October 10. Present were Lisa LaFountain, Jerry Bates, Ricky Laurin, Susanna Fout, Julie Dowd, Bill Glidden, Bob Parks, John Krueger, Melissa Peck, Lance Falcon, Helen Nerska, and Carol Lowery.

Ricky began the meeting with a discussion of obtaining better highway signage for the museum campus. Lisa updated the group on the pricing she had found. For a highway exit sign, you can have one name listed for $100 a year. The organization(s) must pay for the signs to be made. The Chamber of Commerce is always looking for ways to promote the attractions in the area as a part of the destination master plan. Ricky will speak with Michelle to see if there is any way that they would be able to help us obtain signage and how to get people off the highway and to our destinations.

“School Day” will cover the civil war. The Clinton County Historical Association is in the planning stages of the traveling exhibits that will visit local schools since it is becoming more and more difficult for schools to fund transportation for field trips. Groups/individuals that will be participating include the Kent-Delord House, CCHA, the North Country Underground Railroad Historical Association, Larry Bosley and Bob Cheeseman. All will be related to the Civil War. Schools days are planned for fall and will be a program that is connected to the curriculum. Ricky suggested that they alternate every year between different schools because there is a lot to cover.

Grant updates: Jim will be releasing the RFP’s for the Wayside exhibit. The regional meeting is next week. You must have your grant proposal in by mid-November for the Wayside Exhibit.

The Champlain Valley Quilters’ Guild of New York is interested in becoming a part of ACCA. To participate in Museum Weekend, they will need to set up at a museum. The New York State Association for Public Historians is creating a quilt representing New York State. Each town in NY will be represented by one quilt square featuring a town symbol. At the moment only the Town of Plattsburgh has a square entered that Bill Glidden’s wife put together two years ago, and was submitted while at the State Conference in Elmira. Bill would like to see if the Quilters Guild would work on a quilt representing each town.

After looking at the various ways to make a profit from the activity books, Ricky has found that selling ads is the best way to go. Helen brought to the groups attention that we will need to pay taxes on the income unless we are operating as nonprofit. If the group operates as a nonprofit then we will need to have a charter and bylaws to collect money. Bob Parks suggested that we try and get business such at Mountain Lake PBS to sponsor the activity books to get around the issue of

The discussion moved on to the future of ACCA. ACCA was formed in 2006 for Museum Day. After Museum Day, it proved to be a great way to communicate and network so the group moved forward. ACCA is also the Northern New York regional stakeholder through the Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership. The group has also formed into more of a historical group rather than cultural as the wineries have formed their own. For the future, the group would like to continue to use ACCA as a way to network and collaborate for future events. Suzy would like everyone to send her any events their organization has planned for the future so we have an event calendar that can be used by all. We also need to begin looking into moving to another accounting system or entity.

Ricky spoke with Michelle Powers from the Chamber of Commerce and they will be putting together local campaigns to raise local awareness. The Chamber may also help with the passport next year.

Lance Falcon spoke to the group more about the Work Experience Program. Lance will be looking to the group for volunteer opportunities for the students. He is also currently looking for board members for WEP.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 am and the next meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 14th at 8:00 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa LaFountain

Secretary