**Minutes of the Adirondack Coast Cultural Alliance Meeting,**

**September 15, 2016**

President Ellen Adams convened the meeting at 8:40 a.m. on Thursday, September 15, 2016 at the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System Office in Plattsburgh.

In attendance were Jane Saxe-Kelting, Alina Walentowicz, Don Wickman, Karen Batchelder, Jim Brangan, and John Krueger. Shame on the rest of you for missing two very useful presentations.

Introductions and the secretary’s report were waved. Jane moved, Don seconded to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2016 meeting. Motion approved.

In the absence of the treasurer, Ellen presented the treasurer’s report. CCHA is no longer serving as ACCA’s financial tie to the funding provided for the support of the stakeholder’s group from the CVNHP. That responsibility has been assumed by the North Country Visitors’ Bureau. Thank you to CCHA for receiving and overseeing the funds these past several years and thank you to the Visitors’ Bureau for taking on the responsibility.

In the absence of the coordinator, Ellen presented the coordinator’s report. Members are reminded and encouraged to continue to send news of events to Melissa Peck. Melissa recently completed a 6-month report to the CVNHP on ACCA’s activities.

Ellen shared that ACCA vice-president Samantha Bellinger has resigned her position at the SUNY Plattsburgh Art Museum. There was a groundswell of support in favor of nominating Karen Batchelder as Samantha’s successor as vice president, but it was decided to postpone action until such time there was a better turnout of members. We wish Samantha well in the next chapter of her life and thank her for her service.

Ellen thanked the ACCA volunteers who staffed the Macdonough Monument during the Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration. Note to Sandra Geddes: Jane, who staffed the Monument all day on Saturday, reported that the surrounding area was dirty with lots of cigarette butts. The Monument, itself, was dirty inside. Julie Dowd brought her own supplies in order to clean. It was suggested by Jane that perhaps one of the service clubs in the area could be approached about “adopting” the Monument and helping to keep the area clean.

Karen presented a very informative overview of the many excellent resources available on the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System’s website ([www.cefls.org](http://www.cefls.org/)). With a library card from a member library, individuals have access to Ebooks, digital magazines, access to interactive language learning, and a ton of other cool stuff.

Jim Brangan shared some of the CVNHP’s recent deliverables, including a guide to the Valcour Island Heritage Trail, the Lake Champlain Bridge Heritage Area Quest Map, and a Gardening Guide/Plant Hardiness Zone Map with the Farms, Fairs, and Agricultural Museums in the Champlain Valley.  Jim reviewed the Potential Emerging Issues in FY2017 document.  Jim also summarized the process whereby the HAPAC is preparing a list of programs, projects, and efforts for inclusion in the FY2017 CVNHP Workplan and Budget.

**The closing date for the electronic submission of proposals for this year’s heritage grants (up to $5,000) is next Thursday, September 22, at 4:30.**

All eligible organizations are strongly encouraged to submit a proposal. Jim distributed hard copies of the application form. See the Basin Program website for additional details.

Thank you again to Karen and Jim for your presentations, and to Karen for hosting.

John moved, Don seconded to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Krueger, acting secretary in place of Barb Benkwitt

John