



Present – Ricky Laurin (President), Jim Brangan (LCBP/CVNHP), Samantha Bellinger (SUNY Plattsburgh Art Museum), John Krueger (City Historian), Melissa Peck (CCHA), Don Wickman (Kent Delord House), Barb Benkwitt (Schuyler Falls Town Historian), Geri Favreau (CCHA), Karen Batchelder (CEF Library System), Dave Deno (BOPA), Ellen Adams (Alice T Miner Museum), Sandra Geddes (City of Plattsburgh Events), Amber Parliament (Chamber), Leigh Carter (First Weekends), Bob Parks (Press-Republican).

Ricky called the meeting to order at 8:36 am with thanks to Dave for hosting. After introductions, the agenda was re-ordered to start with Leigh, Sandra and Bob.

First Weekends – Leigh described the goals of First Weekends to bring people of all ages together for cultural, art and music events in the downtown and other areas like the marina. Not-for-profits are encouraged to set up family interest tables. FW partners with inside venues - helpful for rainy days. Co-promotion of First Weekends with Museum Days and also Dozer Days was discussed and all were enthusiastic, as in June all will occur on the weekend of June 6-7. Volunteer needed to connect with Dozer Days; Museum Days publicity to be emailed to teachers/school librarians & will co-promote First Weekends (Barb to make connections and do). All enthused about co-promotion on WIRY, etc.

Museum Days and Press Republican – Bob Parks spoke about the heritage of Museum Day/Weekend, using common hours, kid activities, rain or shine, and free admission, with venues cross-pollinating. (Founders include Bob Parks, John Bernardi, Amanda Palmer, John Krueger, among others.)

The Press-Republican is pleased to be the Official Media Sponsor for ACCA and Museum Days, and will again provide a full page listing of venues and events, highlighting kids' activities. Deadline is May 15 to Melissa who will coordinate and provide info to Bob/P-R. Provide multiple bullet points and as many as possible will be included for each venue. CVHN, the Essex County stakeholder group (like ACCA) has talked about participating in the future. Passports prepared by the Clinton County chamber (Amber) will be available at the next ACCA meeting (May 14).

The concept of Free Admission other times in the year for museums was discussed. Each Board decides their policy; some museums with free admission do very well with just donations.

Most on the Coast and other city/area wide events – Sandra Geddes, the city's new Promotions & Special Events Coordinator, described the initial Most on the Coast event at the Crete on Saturday May 2 from 10am to 4 pm. Over 45 vendors thus far had signed up. Bob Parks graciously said the Press-Republican will pay the \$45 entrance fee for ACCA to have a table at MOTC (gratefully accepted). Barb and Ricky and others will handle that booth.

Other Upcoming events --

July 9-10-11-12 – Mayor's Cup ACCA to determine participation and volunteers next month; people needed to open the monument if that is desirable. (Jane Saxe-Kelting had expressed interest previously.)

April 18 – Day of Caring – more projects and volunteers needed.

With Thanks to Leigh, Bob, and Sandra – the Annual Meeting with Election of Officers was held.

Approval of minutes of March 9 meeting (thanks to Ellen for scribing) - motioned by John, seconded by Sam. Approval of treasurer's report – motioned by Barb, seconded by John. Both approved by acclamation.

Coordinator's Report (Melissa) – Positive feedback on sharing of grant info and workshops. Submit events for the website. Museum Days detailed info due to Melissa by Friday May 15, for inclusion in the Press-Republican.

Annual meeting – the secretary casts one vote in favor of the slate of officers – Ellen Adams/President, Samantha Bellinger/Vice President, Helen Nerska/Treasurer, Barb Benkwitt/Secretary, Ricky Laurin/Past-President, John Krueger and Marlene Almodovar, Board members. Terms will run as defined in motion approved February, 2015.

Motion carried with acclamation thanking Ricky Laurin for his years of dedicated service as President of ACCA, with gratitude for him continuing on the Board as Past President.

Organization reports –

PSU Arts (Sam) – BFA project open house April 11, 3pm, exhibit in Myers continues in May; April 14 – lecture by Dennis Costanza on Rockwell Kent’s painting; April 21 Pre-School Art; April 28 – Friends of Art Luncheon

War of 1812 Museum/Battle of Plattsburgh Association (Dave) – BOP participates in Day of Caring April 18; special program May 2; PAF Base Museum opens May 1; hours are 10-3.

Kent Delord House – (Don) – KDL opens May 1; KDL participates also in Day of Caring; Don attends a workshop on Reinventing the Historic House on April 21. New exhibits almost ready to go, including hidden treasures, Plattsburg Academy, Webb Family.

Alice T Miner Museum (Ellen) – ATM opens May 1. The parlor has been renovated! Hallie Bond speaks on Adirondack quilts on April 11; Anastasia Pratt signs her Remarkable Women of Clinton County book on May 20. Future events are Sounds of the Northway and Steve Englehart/AARCH.

Clinton County Historical Museum/Association (Melissa) – Lots going on – 4/18- Friends of Plattsburgh Library book presentation; April 26 – Saranac tour/Lincoln’s Avengers; May 2 – Jean Arthur Commemoration Day with marker dedication, films and more; May 4 and June 8 – Monday evening lectures 7 pm; May 9 – Art show and sale at the Rec Center; new Digital Exhibits installed and open.

North Star Underground Railroad – Exhibits are ready, rack cards now in French and English, new donated flagpole was installed.

CEF Library System (Karen) – Summer reading programs are planned. Speakers programs are set including training workshops on fundraising, open to the public. First one is May 1.

Town of Schuyler Falls (Barb) – dedication of 2 historic markers planned for June/July.

Chamber (Amber) – Member events include Hospitality Training May 27. Destination Master Plan revisions are underway.

Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership (CVNHP) – Jim shared that this is again budget time for FY 2016. A work session in May, then executive committee June 16 so any additional requests/needs should be in to him soon. This year’s grant timing should be starting in July for local heritage grants, etc.

Remember – Visitors to Plattsburgh State and for graduations may be interested in our cultural venues!

Motion to adjourn by Ricky, seconded by John, acclamation. Adjourn 9:43am

Next Meeting – Thursday, May 14, 8:30 am at the Alice T. Miner Museum, 9618 U.S. Route 9 in Chazy.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Benkwitt

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Secretary