

**Minutes of the Adirondack Coast Cultural Alliance Meeting,
August 14, 2014**



Chair Ricky Laurin called the meeting to order at 8:32 AM on Thursday, August 14, 2014 at The Alice T. Miner Museum, Chazy, NY. Present were *Ellen Adams & Rebecca Belton* (The Alice), *Dave Deno* (BOP & PAFB), *Celine Paquette* (Samuel D. Champlain History Center), *Janet McFetridge* (Village of Champlain), *Jim Brangan* (LCBP, CVNHP), *Marlene Almodovar & Jackie Madison* (NCUGRHA), *Helen Nerska & Geri Favreau* (CCHA), *Julie Dowd* (NNYACGS, CCHA), *Don Wickman* (KDL), *Ricky Laurin* (ACCA, Agritourism), *John Krueger* (City, LCBP), and *Barb Benkwitt* (Town of Schuyler Falls).

Introductions. Welcome all, thanks to The Alice for hosting.

Secretary's Report/Minutes Approval –

Minutes of the July meeting and this August meeting will be available for review/approval at the next meeting.

Financial Report/Approval –

Financial report January 1 through August 9, 2014 was provided. Balance is \$5290.39; \$1990.39 in grant plus initial cash balance, less coordinator expenses; \$100 in 'dues' income; \$3200 in ad receipts for coloring books. A reminder/dues/opportunity-to-donate letter will be crafted by Barb for sending. The bill for printing the two coloring books should be received within the next two weeks. Helen moved, John seconded; financial report approved.

Coordinator's Report

Melissa has her camps this week at CCHA, so sent word to continue to provide her with events to post and share.

Old Business

- Board of Directors will have their initial meeting at 3 pm on Monday August 25 at CCHA.
- Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration participation – The 200th anniversary is here! Events begin in Champlain and Chazy on August 30 and 31, with the march continuing September 6th at Dewey's Tavern/Champlain, Culver Hill/Beekmantown, and Halsey's Corners/Plattsburgh. Commemoration weekend of September 12-13-14 includes most museums open extra hours – confirm all on www.champlain1812.com. Jim Bailey will have the Macdonough Monument open for tours.
- Thanks to all for Mayor's Cup and monument open coverage. FYI the Monument is under purview of the City Clerk Sylvia Parrotte.

New Business

LCBP/CVNHP – Jim Brangan - Continue to provide input/suggestions for 2015-2016; a draft is already in process. The NEWIPICC contract has been signed. The Lake Champlain Quadricentennial report is almost complete. 2015 will be a project driven year. Topics include new water and paddle trails, a geology guide, and sustainable agriculture. There is excitement in connecting Crown Point NY and Chimney Point VT, possibly with one unified admission price to all venues and with interpretive signage. There will be a work shop in late October/early November under National Park Service auspices on traditional and interpretive linkages. The Champlain Valley Heritage National Partnership summit will be held in Plattsburgh October 20th, 27th or November 3rd.

The Battle of Plattsburgh commemoration has been funded for many years by CVNHP/LCBP. John mentioned that talks are underway to assure future commemorations: the city might manage the BOP events. Meetings are already being held amongst the City (Mayor Calnon and Bruce Lawson, Community and Economic Development Director, and Historian), the executive committee of the Battle of Plattsburgh Association, and the Chamber of Commerce.

From The Chair - Ricky - Each organization is asked to provide 3-5 bullet points/events/accomplishments to Melissa so she can consolidate into one annual report from ACCA to Jim. This is due by the October 9th meeting, so as to submit before November 1st. Melissa will send a reminder to all.

Margaret Gibbs has said she can provide a workshop in volunteer recruitment and training. It was unclear if this will be pursued. Also the CVHN group from Essex County is meeting October 1st at the Keeseville Grange, and ACCA had planned to meet twice a year with CVHN. More info will follow at the next meeting.

Contact Rick to receive coloring books for the Battle of Plattsburgh, and for Agriculture. Charge tax on sales.

Updates from the Group

The Alice/Ellen – As part of the Chazy BOP events, Stephen Woodruff will be signing his book at The Alice on August 30.
Champlain/Janet and Celine – Saturday, August 16 is Village Fest Day with the Gazebo dedication and more. The 350th anniversary of the Isle LaMotte regiment is upcoming, and also the Filles du Roi 350th.
Rouses Point Historical/Geri – The museum is open and it is very nice. Hours have now changed to 11-2, Wed-Fri-Sat.
Friend of the Old Stone Barracks/Geri – FOSB has the funds for the down payment to purchase the Old Stone Barracks. Their goal is \$225K by December 1st for purchase price as well as stabilizing the building. Meetings of the group are held on Mondays at the Government Center from 4-6pm. All are welcome. Creative uses/ideas sought. Wayside exhibit?
Genealogy / Julie – The NNYACGS annual conference with speakers will be Saturday September 27th at the Village Center in Dannemora, site of the Genealogy library which will also be open that day.
KDL/ Don – The architectural tour of Plattsburgh and KDL attracted 27 people; the NY Council on the Humanities is funding the junior encampment at KDL during BOP; the carriage barn back area has been cleared by volunteers after a tree tumbled; BOP will be on CSpan on August 22 with David Fitz-Enz; also an Across The Fence broadcast about BOP with Don and Craig Russell on August 25th.
UGR/Jackie & Marlene – It's been very busy; bus tours are always full. October 18th is the annual meeting. Don Papson and Tom Calarco will discuss their book on November 7th, 5 pm, at the Peru Library. The Quebec Geography Teachers' Association is already booked for May, 2015.
CCHA/ Helen – Filming of the Aiken rifle with Col. Fitz-Enz occurred; August 23rd is our Street Drive; August 16th and September 20th are walking tours of the Old Base. September 27th is the Out of the Attic Antique Appraisal; Sunday October 12th the I Love Clinton Art Show at the Rec Center; book sales benefit CCHA; art sales benefit the artist.
Town of Schuyler Falls/ Barb – Townwide garage sale August 16; tentative September 7th commemoration of Wait's Mill BOP skirmish in Morrisonville, when villagers repelled British troop seeking ways to cross to south of the Saranac.

Miscellaneous

Any NFP can set up at the Farmers' Market on Durkee Street, sell books, etc. It's great exposure. Contact Pat Parker. County Office Building – Personnel is upstairs.
Path Through History? I Love New York? NY History Month in November? How do these work? (*Ed.Note –the NY History Blog includes interesting comments on these 'programs'.*)

******Re Bill Glidden –**

Bill has been a faithful and positive force in ACCA since early in its life, and at this time Bill has indicated that he's 'retiring' from active duty. Motion by Celine, with second by Helen, for ACCA to express our heartfelt thanks to Bill and to recognize his service over the years to ACCA and the greater history community. Motion carried enthusiastically and unanimously. A certificate thanking Bill for his insight, expertise, input, and participation in ACCA will be prepared and presented to him. We wish Bill all the best!

Next meeting – Thursday, September 18, 2014, 8:30 AM at Kent Delord House "Barn", Plattsburgh NY

Motion to adjourn by Barb; seconded by acclamation. Meeting adjourned at 9:55 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Benkwitt

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ACCA Recording Secretary