

**Adirondack Coast Cultural Alliance
Minutes - Meeting of August 9, 2018**



President Ellen Adams called the meeting to order at 8:42 am, Thursday, August 9, 2018, at the Lyon Mountain Mining & Railroad Museum. Thank you Jane (and Anna and Ann Marie) for hosting and goodies!

Present: Ellen Adams (Alice T Miner Museum, pres.), Karen Batchelder (CEFLS), Barb Benkwitt (Town of Schuyler Falls, Sec'y), Jim Brangan (Lake Champlain Basin Program/Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership). Julie Dowd (CCHA & NNYACGS), Anna Golovach and Jane Saxe Kelting (Lyon Mountain), Ricky Laurin (Alice T Miner), Ann Marie Mackintosh (Lyon Mountain), Helen Nerska (CCHA), Melissa Peck (ACCA Coordinator, Mountain Lakes PBS), Don Wickman (Kent Delord House Museum)

Ellen called the meeting to order at 8:42am after the recording secretary finally arrived, delayed due to road construction (and leaving home too late....).

Motion made by Ricky, seconded by Jane to approve the meeting notes for the July 12th meeting as recorded by Ellen Adams (with thanks).

The treasurer's report shows a balance of \$1022.77. Coordinator bills to be submitted would bring the balance to \$622.77. Lake Champlain Basin Program \$2000 should be received soon.

Coordinator's report – Melissa requests all museums that have not yet provided attendance reports to please submit them ASAP. PAFB, BOP/War of 1812, and CVT still need to submit. Total attendance is 823 so far; the museums not yet reporting could have had a lot of visitors. Continue to send events to Melissa.

Clinton County History Conference is scheduled for Saturday November 3, 2018 at the Elks Lodge in Plattsburgh. The organizing committee includes Geri Favreau, Bill Laundry, Gary Vancour, Anastasia Pratt, and Ellen Adams. Start time is 9am with coffee, then morning session(s), lunch, and afternoon session(s) and wrap-up. State Historian Devin Lander will attend and speak, as will Steve Engelhart of AARCH. Topics include historic preservation, markers, historic panels, and tourism.

Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration is set for September 6th – 9th. Tara Powers of City of Plattsburgh is coordinating; Don Wickman of Kent-Delord House Museum is on the committee. Buttons will again be \$15 each, enabling attendance at all events. The stage will be at Trinity Park on Friday and Saturday. Re-enactments will be at the Champlain Monument on Saturday and Sunday. The Tavern will be set up in Olive Ridley's restaurant. Music includes 10 bands, with performances by Beartracks on Thursday, Coburg Band on Saturday. Saturday (Sept 8th) at 11:30 at KDLH, Matt Keagle will discuss the War of 1812 collection at Fort Ticonderoga. CCHA will have lots going on at the Museum Campus – tours of the Oval, display of an Aiken rifle and Turner rifle, whose great-grandfather was in the War of 1812, as well as a replica of the Eagle including blueprints. The new editor at Lake Champlain Weekly has suggested having a carry-around map available for visitors.

ACCA Membership Renewals - \$75/organization, \$25/individual – notices will be sent out soon. There will be no stakeholder group funding in the next round of grants. Melissa is researching alliance networks. Advocacy day in Albany is in February to speak with legislators for funding.

Kent-Delord House Museum– Don mentioned a MANY meet-up on September 4; members are free.

NCUGRHA/North Star Underground Railroad Museum – Seeking volunteers for September 29th's street drive donation collection in Plattsburgh. The Chasm Trail 5K Freedom Race is also Sept. 29. Bus tours of

important sites continue on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays. A book for 4th graders has recently been published.

NNYACGS – Genealogy conference will be Saturday September 29th at the Dannemora Civic Center. Speaker will talk about DNA results and genealogy in the morning. Music, lunch and book sale rounds out the day's events.

Clinton County Landfill's annual open house in the town of Schuyler Falls is August 10th.

Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership Grant Opportunities / New Pre-Proposal Process

Jim Brangan presented information on the 2018-2019 CVNHP Workplan/Budget Timeline draft, and Grant Opportunities available for 2019, with applications due October 1, 2018. *(Note that Melissa subsequently sent out a separate email to all describing the grants and process.)* He also distributed copies the 2018 State of the Lake and Ecosystem Indicators Report prepared by the Lake Champlain Basin Program.

Jim described the process for funding national heritage areas, where older heritage areas get twice as much funding as newer ones, like the Champlain Valley NHP. The model is for \$1M, expect \$500K, and now the new cap is \$358K (up from \$327K). The Senate Appropriations Committee includes Sen. Leahy of VT. In the budget work plan process, it was clear that having 11 regional stakeholder groups was not sustainable. Thus going forward there will not be funding for coordinators. For 2019 there are four grant categories – Collections, Internship, Local Heritage, and Conservation & Community Interpretive Theme. Natural history projects are eligible. The Lois McClure is touring Lake Champlain and the Richelieu River.

The new process will use three themes. In 2020, they are Making of Nations, Women's Suffrage and Civics Today.

Jim then described the work plan development process. First projects will submit a 2-page pre-proposal/recommendation for a project. At the summit, networking opportunities will inform regional projects. The summit this year is planned for Monday, Nov. 5 in Vergennes, with a Nov. 4 field day option. Those included would be partners, regional stakeholders, and then general public. Pre-proposals would be due before Thanksgiving. Shared proposals would be looked on favorably.

Other comments – Funding comes from the National Heritage Program (~\$350K) and Great Lakes Fishery (\$100K). John Kruger continues as chair of HAPAC. Conservation & Community could include human interaction with the landscape. Immigration into Lyon Mountain would be a local heritage grant. Groups could submit one application per category.

Meeting adjourned 9:47am, with thanks to Jim for his presentation.

NEXT MEETING –

Thursday, September 13, 8:30 AM

NCUGRHA/North Star Underground Railroad Museum, Ausable Chasm/Keeseville

Respectfully submitted,

Barb

Barb Benkwitt, ACCA Secretary