

**Minutes of the Adirondack Coast Cultural Alliance Meeting,
February 13, 2014**



Rick Laurin called the meeting to order at 8:34 AM on Thursday, February 13, 2014 at AARCH (Adirondack Architectural Heritage), Keeseville, NY. Present were Susan Arena (AARCH), Dave Deno (BOPA), Jackie Madison (NCUGRHA), Amber Parliament (NCCC, Visitors Bureau), Karen Batchelder (C-E-F LS), Lance Falcon (WEPS), Don Wickman (KDL), Jane Saxe-Kelting (Lyon Mt), Melissa Peck (ACCA Coordinator & CCHA), Julie Dowd (CCHA, NNYACGS), Geri Favreau (RP-CHS, CCHA), Helen Nerska (CCHA, NCUGRHA), John Krueger (City, LCBP+), Barb Benkwitt (SF Town) and Ricky Laurin (ACCA Chair).

Introductions - done. Susan described the AARCH building and offered a tour after the meeting to anyone interested (or in the future). Thank you for hosting!

Secretary's Report/Approval –

Minutes of the January 9, 2014 meeting had been emailed and also provided at the meeting. Jackie moved, Helen seconded and the minutes were approved.

Financial Report/Approval –

Financial report Jan 1 through Feb 12 2014 was provided, with a current balance of \$240.39. Melissa mentioned we should be receiving the remaining \$700 of the LCBP grant; John will check on that. Don moved, Helen seconded, and the financial report was approved.

Coordinator Report –

Rick introduced Melissa as the new coordinator, to the acclaim of those present! Melissa asked that all ***please submit their events using the form at the bottom of the event list on the ACCA website***. This makes it easy to post them on the ACCA website. It takes a lot of time to select the info from press releases, etc. if not using the form/format. Melissa will be updating the overall ACCA email list. ***Dave will send Melissa what he has from the BOP computer; Amber will send Melissa what she has from the Strategic Planning committee***. Also suggested was to include Chris Rosenquest and Tim McCormick and also the Downtown Association, as well as the municipal historians.

Old Business –

- The Titus Mountain Passport Prize was sent to Mary Beth, and a press release sent in December 2013 to announce. The Ausable Chasm prize, just received, will now be sent out. ***Ricky will check on the Press Release sending to strive to get it printed.***
- The Passport/Pamphlet for ACCA and Museum Days and beyond is underway by the Chamber with ACCA/members input. Melissa, Ricky, Amber & Chrissy met recently. The Passport will be full 'rack card' size – 4 ¼ x 11 – with many pages, including the museums/sites, the standard open days/times, and a description. This is a new format, and will function both as the Passport (with prizes awarded), and also as a marketing piece before and after Museum Days. Prizes and how to award them was discussed (motivation to visit? # of museums to visit?), that museums must stamp twice – once on the return-for-prizes section, and once on their museum page (so the passport holder has a record of where they'd been). ***The committee will meet again – and include Ricky, Jane, Dave and Amber.***
- Museum Days is scheduled for Saturday/Sunday from 10-4. ***Barb will connect with Bob***

Parks to see when information is due for the Press-Republican.

- Activity Books (continuing, 90% complete for agriculture; 40% complete for BOP) – discussion of running the business donation dollars and printing costs through ACCA with future profits going to ACCA described. ***In process.***
- A suggestion was made to constitute a group to get together outside of the larger ACCA meeting to discuss and prepare an ACCA 5-Year Strategic Plan. ***Pending.***
- Geri mentioned the Historic Marker inventory she is spearheading (as discussed in a previous ACCA meeting) and that once the Civil War book project is complete she will move forward on the markers. ***In process.***
- The Day of Caring continues to seek projects (by March 12) and volunteers – see the United Way website. Management of the volunteers has been challenging in some past instances. ***Amber will carry that comment back to those in charge, especially at PSU.***
- The ACCA website hosting fee of \$40/year is soon due. Melissa encourages all to ***friend ACCA on Facebook, and also if you are not an administrator – let Melissa know and she will provide you with Administrator access to Facebook so you can put updates out there and links.***
- ***Barb will collect a brief overview of any/all organizations event plans for 2014 by March 7 (please)*** and will collate them for a 30,000 ft. view of all groups' plans for the year. To be discussed at the ACCA meeting March 13 – to identify co-promotions or conflicts.

New Business

- Ricky has found a PSU person who can provide CPR training for the group at \$40/person - \$30 for training and \$10 for the certification papers. ***Tabled until next meeting to determine interest.***
- Quilts & quilting enthusiasts – Champlain Valley Quilters are seeking folks to prepare coffin quilts for the BOP commemoration, and for displays. Contact Linda Harwood at lsharwood@yahoo.com.
- Lake Champlain Blueways – Update to be provided at Champlain Valley Heritage Network (CVHN; Essex County) joint meeting with ACCA on Wednesday, February 19, 9 am at AARCH. All are encouraged to attend!! The Blueways group with Lakes-To-Locks is seeking to identify places along the lake or inland by water, and stories about those places. The basis for the place IDs is from Morris Glen; Paula Dennis is coordinating. ***John, Geri, Julie, Susan and Ricky will coordinate/bring information for ACCA; info to all is pending from the Blueways group.***
- 2014 Budget – Had been approved with questions. This time discussed budget line #16 on Museum Education Training Seminar. ACCA strives to promote museums through sharing and coordination. Motioned by Melissa to remove item #16 from the 2014 budget; second by Helen. Passed. Line item #15 ACCA Dues was discussed relative to donations, membership, and that ACCA has up to now been the only Regional Stakeholder group soliciting donations/dues. ***Tabled to March meeting.***
- Grants from the DHP – Documentary Heritage Program – are now open for application (until March 3, 2014). See http://www.archives.nysed.gov/a/grants/grants_dhp.shtml
- Ricky shared that Stan Ransom's email is now sransom@northnet.org. Also, a French class will be held at CCC from 8-10 am on Tues/Thurs March 25- April 11, which can facilitate us in communicating with our French-speaking visitors. See CCC website for full info and cost.

- **Bring brochures to the March 13 ACCA meeting to exchange** with others, as well as to the CVHN/ACCA Feb 19 joint meeting with CVHN / Suzanne Maye at AARCH.

Chamber Report

- Amber reported that the Mayor's Cup held this year from July 10-13 is seeking more land-based events. A form is due by February 26 to Beth at the Mayor's Office. The group felt that ACCA should be present. Barb volunteered to complete the form and submit it to Beth for ACCA; Julie, Jane, Ricky, Barb and others will staff the booth. Motion by Barb, second by Don to have an ACCA booth with brochures etc. at Mayor's Cup. Passed.
- DoNorth – the PenAir in-flight magazine developed by PSU for PenAir will have Battle of Plattsburgh as its theme soon. PSU has the details.
- Battle of Plattsburgh brochures are available from the Chamber – see Amber.

Museum Reports

- NCUGRHA (Jackie) – The 'Created Equal – America's Civil Rights Struggle' film series continues on Saturday afternoons from 1 to 3 or 4 pm at Plattsburgh Public Library, through March.
- CCHA (Melissa) –Feb 15 Heritage interviews continue, on winter traditions; Feb 22 Snowball 2014 event – survival in the Adirondacks
- NNYACGS (Julie) – The library is open Wednesdays and most Saturdays from 11-4 in Dannemora; see the website for specifics.
- KDL (Don) – Preparing for spring and new exhibits.
- AARCH (Susan) – Preparing summer tour schedule of ~35 tours. Contact Susan with ideas or for partnering.
- C-E-F (Karen) – Reminder that C-E-F has a van delivery across the area to member libraries and can easily deliver brochures to outlying areas.
- WEPS (Lance) – Lance described his not-for-profit organization called Work Experience Program, built out of his blacksmith role at the Babbie Museum and connections with the Peru school district. His focus is providing real-life experiences for students, such as developing a business plan to run a fund-raiser for a non-profit organization. He is forming links with school districts and wants to connect with NFP organizations that can use his students. He can be contacted at 518-572-5458.

Next meeting — Thursday, March 13, 2014, 8:00 AM

Clinton County Historical Association/Museum, 98 Ohio Ave (Old Base), Plattsburgh,
(518) 561-0340

Motion to adjourn by Barb; seconded by John. Meeting adjourned at 10:15 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Benkwitt
ACCA Secretary