

**Adirondack Coast Cultural Alliance  
Minutes - Meeting of July 12, 2018**



President Ellen Adams called the meeting to order at 8:43 a.m., Thursday, July 12, 2018, at the Kent Delord House in Plattsburgh. Thanks to Don for hosting.

Present at the meeting were Ellen Adams (Alice T. Miner Museum), Julie Dowd (CCHA & NNYACGS), Christina Elliott (Plattsburgh State Art Museum), Geri Favreau (CCHA), Felicia Herzog (Plattsburgh State Art Museum), Melissa Peck (Coordinator & MLPBS), Jane Saxe-Kelting (Lyon Mountain Mining & RR Museum), and Don Wickman (Kent Delord House). Ellen Adams recorded the minutes in the absence of Secretary Barb Benkwitt.

The minutes of the meetings of May 10 and June 14 were reviewed and approved. A few omissions in the financial report were noted, most significantly the coordinator's payroll for September and October 2018. When those figures are taken into account, there should be a balance of \$2,612.28. An additional \$1500 from the coordinator's grant will be coming in the fall, and the last \$500 in February 2019 or thereabouts.

Melissa requested that organizations which participated in Museum Days send in their attendance figures. She also noted that the ACCA Facebook page is very active, and as we move forward we should think more strategically about how we use social media.

The first agenda item was a discussion of Museum Days. Geri reported that CCHA had an excellent weekend with about 250 visitors. Intel from Don suggests that visitors are seeing the Old Base Campus as a specific destination. Jane also reported good numbers at Lyon Mountain, and noted that people seemed more interested in the museum exhibits than in the special programs. The Plattsburgh State Art Museum had very few visitors, at least in part because a number of the galleries are closed. Christina said she saw many people walking on campus playing Pokémon Go, but unfortunately they did not interact with the art. She discussed potentially working with Plattsburgh Outside Art to create a map of murals and other outdoor art, which might tap into some of that audience.

It was generally agreed that doing a second full Museum Days in October during fall Path Through History weekend would not be feasible, but we do want to encourage museums to do a "Mini Museum Weekend" that Saturday, October 6.

We then moved on to a discussion of how ACCA should proceed now that the coordinator grant is being phased out. Geri suggested that we write a letter to Jim Brangan thanking him and LCBP/CVNHP for their support in the past. The possibility of getting some kind of funding from Clinton County, perhaps through the visitors bureau, was raised. It was suggested that ACCA should apply for 501c3 status, as this would open up more opportunities to apply for grants and funding. Geri moved that ACCA move forward with this plan, Don seconded, and all approved. Maurica Gilbert at CCHA may be able to provide us with assistance in the application process.

Don Wickman reported that students from the Catholic Heart Work Camp painted the handicap ramp at the Kent Delord House and completed some other projects. Preparations for the Battle of Plattsburgh commemoration are underway.

Julie Dowd reported that the Genealogical Society is holding a conference September 28-30. The topic will be DNA testing. The conference will also feature a performance of French-Canadian music.

Jane Saxe-Kelting reported that the Lyon Mountain Mining and Railroad Museum will be holding its annual fundraising dinner on July 14. A reporter from North Country Public Radio came to the museum to interview a former mine worker and to scan photos which will be used in a future series about work in the North Country.

Geri Favreau reported that 55 people are signed up for CCHA's trip to Valcour Island on July 15. She also has spoken to the manager of the Beekmantown welcome center, and ACCA has been offered a display case there to use as we wish.

The meeting adjourned at 9:33 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING –  
Thursday, August 9th, 8:30 AM at the  
Lyon Mountain Mining & Railroad Museum, Lyon Mountain  
2898 Standish Rd, Lyon Mountain, NY 12952**

Respectfully submitted,  
Ellen Adams