 **Minutes of the Adirondack Coast Cultural Alliance Meeting,**

**March 20, 2014**

Rick Laurin called the meeting to order at 8:09 AM on Thursday, March 20, 2014 at CCHA (Clinton County Historical Association & Museum), Plattsburgh, NY. The meeting had been postponed until this date due to snow on the scheduled date March 13. Present were Bob Parks (Press-Republican), Jackie Madison (NCUGRHA), Amber Parliament and Alyssa Felio (NCCoC, Visitors Bureau), Jerry Bates and Bill Glidden (Town of Plattsburgh), Samantha Bellinger (PSU Art Museum), Karen Batchelder (C-E-F LS), Don Wickman (KDL), Julie Dowd (CCHA, NNYACGS), Geri Favreau (CCHA), Helen Nerska (CCHA, NCUGRHA), John Krueger (City, LCBP+), Barb Benkwitt (SF Town), Melissa Peck (ACCA Coordinator & CCHA) and Ricky Laurin (ACCA Chair).

Introductions - done. Special welcome to Alyssa Felio who will be working with Amber at the Chamber; now they are at full strength!

Secretary’s Report/Approval –

Minutes of the February 13, 2014 meeting had been emailed and also provided at the meeting. Helen moved, John seconded and the minutes were approved.

Financial Report/Approval –

Financial report Jan 1 through Mar 12 2014 was provided, and was the same as the previous month – no change; current balance $240.39. Following up on the LCBP grant remainder expected from last year. Melissa moved, Don seconded, and the financial report was approved.

Coordinator Report –

Melissa asked that all ***please submit their events using the form at the bottom of the event list on the ACCA website***. She is posting events on the website, has an updated list of email to who to distribute meeting notes, and is working to get all who want as administrators on the Facebook page.

Old Business –

* Amber reported that the Passport for ACCA and Museum Days is underway and should be available soon. Those present agreed that an ***ACCA pamphlet project should be on hold*** until after the Passport is issued to determine if a separate pamphlet is needed.

Project Updates –

* Day of Caring is Saturday, April 5. There is still time to submit a project or volunteer to help (from Amber).
* Museum Weekend is scheduled for Saturday/Sunday June 7-8 from 10-4. Bob Parks provided background on the ‘birth’ of Museum Day (now weekend) and how Bob and John Bernardi of the United Way had helped shepherd the assorted museums to come together, resulting in the first Museum Day in 2008 (this will be the 7th annual!) Bob reaffirmed that the Press-Republican promotes the event held the first weekend in June, with free admission at all venues and consistent open hours from 10 am to 4 pm, rain or shine. Special emphasis is put on kids’ activities, creative programs or displays, and that all venues will cross-promote the other venues during Museum Weekend.
* For Museum Weekend – Melissa will coordinate venue information to Bob Parks for inclusion in the Press-Republican. He would like the information in WORD (not PDF), to include where/Museum, address, phone number, website, and any special activities/times in bulleted fashion, with most important first (max 5 activities). ***Please provide your info to Melissa as soon as available for your Museum and before May 16 so that Bob can comfortably prepare the copy for the P-R well ahead of time and without last minute changes. Thanks!***
* Mayor’s Cup – ACCA is approved to have a table by the Macdonough monument on Saturday July 12. A call for volunteers will go out in May/June for that and monument tour help that same day.
* Chamber Updates - Amber introduced Alyssa who has joined the Chamber group. Hospitality Training will be held May 28 at Plattsburgh State’s Myers Fine Arts Building, for those that are members of the Chamber. (This was formerly known as Front Desk Training.) Also – be sure to send your events to Amber for the Chamber website.
* Amber and Don talked about the 22-mile Cycling Itinerary developed around Battle of Plattsburg/War of 1812 sites using ‘map-my-ride’ and Google maps with GPS. This is available now on [www.goadirondack.com/biking](http://www.goadirondack.com/biking) . Suggestion made to include Rouses Point/Champlain in a longer cycling itinerary too.
* Barb mentioned the APHNYS (Association of Public Historians of New York State) conference just held in Saratoga Spring. A talk on BOP was well-received, and brochures distributed about ACCA members. Notable seminars: (1) GIS overlay technology of old maps by a prod in Skidmore (with possible expansion into Clinton County in the future), and (2) the importance of cultural organizations working with public school librarians and BOCES/CV-Tech groups for primary source documents and interesting programs into the schools to support the Common Core goals APHNYS plans to get all historic marker sites state-wide identified and visible on line. Our Clinton County ACCA/CCHA effort meshes well with this APHNYS plan.
* Thanks to all who submitted their 2014 events and plans to Barb ***– a collated calendar of events for ACCA groups will be available next meeting.***
* Ricky mentioned Tammy Rock shared an event happening April 8 at the AM Kiwanis; contact Scott or Tonya for information.

New Business

* The 2015 budgeting process is beginning for the Lake Champlain Basin Program, with brainstorming scheduled at the next ACCA meeting. Bring your ideas!
* Lake Champlain Blueways – Waiting for place listing from that group to help find stories about the places (as discussed in Champlain Valley Heritage Network/Essex Couny meeting – no update to report.
* John is now on the First Weekend planning committee. There are opportunities for cross-promotion of First Weekend and Museum Days happening the same time in June – feed info to John. Also the Path through History weekends are June 7-8 and 14-15, see the website.

Museum Reports

* NCUGRHA (Jackie) – The museum is seeking a new manager; position description at OneWorkSource, apply by March 31. Also Dr. Palmer Beekman is being scheduled to speak (sp?).
* KDL (Don) – Two paintings have gone for restoration and to be unveiled at a reception April 24. Betsey was uncovered! Also the author of War of 1812 Shipwrecks, including those from BOP, is scheduled for the end of July.
* Public Historians (Jerry) – A mini-conference for APHNYS on the Battle of Plattsburgh will be held in Plattsburgh’s Holiday Inn Thursday night and Friday, June 5 and 6. All are invited to attend. The goal is to enlighten others about BOP’s 200th commemoration.
* PSU Art (Sam) – March 27 is the Friends of Art Luncheon and artist talk. April 12 is the Senior BFA Art Exhibit opening, as well as ‘Slow Art Day’ to encourage only viewing 5 works during an hour period, with discussion to follow.
* RP Historical (Geri) – There will a soft opening of the Village History Center and Welcome Center tentatively Museum Weekend. Permission has been granted to open.
* CCHA (Melissa) – Exhibits change April 5th, with member opening of the I Love Clinton County series. April 7th is Dr. Frost’s Monday Night Lecture on the Hotel Champlain; April 19th a textile conservation workshop and presentation; and May 17th Town and Cemeteries of Schuyler Falls tour.
* C-E-F (Karen) – Keep in mind ways to use the libraries to support the museums. Some libraries also have exhibit spaces.
* Press-Republican (Bob) – Be sure to keep the Press Republican apprised of interesting goings-on. features@pressrepublican.com or novalle@pressrepublican.com (Nate Ovalle, Features Editor) news@pressrepublican.com or smoore@pressrepublican.com (Suzanne Moore, Local Editor)

Tabled Items from past meetings –

Budget for 2014, Strategic Planning 5-yr forward view group, Red Cross training

**Next meeting –**- **Thursday, April 10, 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 Don. Meeting adjourned at 9:35 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb

Barb Benkwitt

ACCA Secretary