ADIRONDACK COAST CULTURAL ALLIANCE

Minutes of the July 18, 2012 Meeting

Rick Laurin, Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:05am at the Champlain Valley Transportation Museum. Present were Rick Laurin, Susanna Fout, Helen Nerska, Tammy Rock, Don Papson, Bill Glidden, Jim Bailey, Melissa Peck, Tricia Davies, Lisa LaFountain and Stan Ransom. Melissa Peck was introduced as the new Director of Clinton County Historical Museum.

Upon motion of John Krueger, seconded by Bill Glidden, the minutes were approved.

The Treasurer’s report showed a balance of $40 from our stakeholder grant, with some additional income to come from the requested $10 donations of members.

Rick reported on Museum Days. There were 2800 visitors, 1600 on Saturday and 980 on Sunday. He stressed that numbers were important, as many funding requests require attendance figures. Bus service was discussed. Fine tuning is needed next year. Rick suggested a traffic director to supervise parking in lots with parking spots outlined. The Museum Day report has been given to the State and to Senator Little’s office.

Discussion of member’s board composition showed that many board members do not volunteer to help with the activities of the non-profit. Don Papson pointed out that the State Education Law specifies that board members must take an active part in the organization they represent. What do you look for in a board member? A workshop would be helpful, perhaps grant funded. There should be job descriptions for board members. Tammy Rock interviews prospective board members to learn what skills they have which could be used.

A state questionnaire has been sent out by Kristy Kennedy relating to information about each nonprofit.

What direction should ACCA take? Consider for our next meeting, suggested for the second, not the third, Wednesday of the month, to avoid conflict with other organizations. This would be August 8th. Tammy suggested that all member organizations do their calendars for the entire year.

Helen Nerska noted that the Chamber offers front desk staff training, and asked about training for volunteers. Could the Chamber do this?

The Master Plan includes storytelling about our history. On August 2nd at 10am at the Chamber, storytelling dealing with history and other topics will be discussed.

Comic books or history coloring books are popular. Rick showed three about the Farm and Environment. These cost 60 cents and retail for $2.00. BOPA has one. It was suggested to create these for Battle of Plattsburgh Bicentennial, Miner museums, agriculture and others. A DEC grant would help to fund the creation of these. The art work could be created by students from local schools and colleges doing art projects. It was proposed to discuss this idea further at the next meeting.

Rick and Susanna were authorized to send a letter of support to Lakes to Locks for training programs.

Clinton Community College alumni are selling a “Defense of Plattsburgh” map for $30 to raise funds. Contact Michele Powers if you are interested in selling them on consignment.

The members of ACCA voiced their thanks to Rick, Susanna, Tammy and Jane for setting up the ACCA booth at the Clinton County Fair, despite the great heat.

Don announced an Underground Railroad program at Peru Free Library July 22nd and a Freedom Festival of Music picnic at the Estes House from 5-9pm on August 2nd in celebration of the Emancipation Proclamation. Admission is $7.00 for adults.

Tammy announced that Dave Ruch, from Buffalo, will be presenting a Concert at BOPA on Saturday, July 21st at 7pm at the BOPA museum. Wednesday, July 25, Craig Russell and the Strawhatters will present a concert on the BOPA lawn.

Upon motion of Helen, seconded by Stan, the meeting adjourned at 9:35am. The next meeting of ACCA will be at 8am on Wednesday, August 8th, note new date, at the Transportation Museum.

Respectfully submitted,

Stan Ransom

Secretary