



**Adirondack Coast Cultural Alliance
Minutes - Meeting of September 13, 2018**

President Ellen Adams called the meeting to order at 8:36 am, Thursday, September 13, 2018, at the North Star Underground Railroad Museum at Ausable Chasm. Thank you Jackie for hosting and goodies!

Present: Ellen Adams (Alice T Miner Museum, Pres.), Karen Batchelder (Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System), Barb Benkwitt (Town of Schuyler Falls, Sec'y), Julie Dowd (Clinton County Historical Association & NNYACGS-genealogy), Christina Elliott and Felicia Herzog (Plattsburgh State Art Museum), Ricky Laurin (Alice T Miner), Jackie Madison (North Country Underground Railroad Historical Association), Melissa Peck (ACCA Coordinator, Mountain Lakes PBS), Stan Ransom (various, community), Alyson Senecal (Chamber, Visitors' Bureau). Don Wickman (Kent Delord House Museum)

No formal agenda was used for this meeting, rather a sharing of information and ideas, especially as we are only a few days past the Battle of Plattsburgh commemoration.

Motion made by Stan, seconded by Rick to approve the meeting notes for the August 9th meeting.

The treasurer's balance remains at \$622.77.

Coordinator's report – Melissa reported approaching grant deadlines of October 1 & 22. Grants and professional development opportunities are posted on the ACCA website www.adkcoastcultural.org and circulated to the email list as received. Keep sending event information to Melissa, and to Alyson at the Chamber. There's a MANY meet-up on September 20.

Stan Ransom mentioned that they had hundreds of kids participate in the games at the Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration. Israel Green Tavern was also a success.

Stan also mentioned the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) is promoting programs on local history in public schools, including Willsboro and Keeseville so far. Topics include heritage, ancestors, and community history. The SAR will also commemorate the Battle of Valcour on September 15.

Don Wickman recapped the Kent Delord House Museum & BOP successes and volunteers – with thanks to Rick and Priscilla Laurin and Karen Batchelder who did calligraphy. Teenaged volunteers helped too. KDHM saw a 39% increase in attendance over last year, to 596 in 2018, as compared to 1000 in 2014 at the 200th anniversary, so it is significant. This year's publicity and marketing campaign contributed to the success – WPTZ, Across The Fence in VT, radio interviews, a press conference, sponsor dollars and recognition, new programs, Sunday battle at the museum, a church service of the period with shape-note singers, the Riverside Cemetery ceremony with a 15-star flag, honored guests including British visitors --- all positives. Don also noted the November 12th Veterans' Day open house at Kent Delord – with WW! memorabilia, and Matt Hewston presenting.

Alice T Miner Museum had some visitors from BOP per Ellen. CCHA had Cub Scouts visiting and better than average attendance during BOP per Julie.

Karen Batchelder of CEFLS shared that the summer Library Program "Libraries Rock" was successful, especially the rock painting. Upcoming events include an event with SPARCC on September 15 at Macomb Park with activities focusing on preventing substance abuse. They are working on many outreach activities to tourists in all three counties, with Library System information placed at marinas and shops in both French and English. They also partnered with Plattsburgh Housing Authority to set up Book Benches in strategic locations – for folks to take a book/leave a book, and community and library flyers and info for both adults and kids, including job search info. This is to meet people where they are,

especially due to many lacking reliable transportation. On October 19 at Cumberland Cinema there will be a movie on domestic violence and with a Q/A and talk back opportunity. Other discussions are planned.

SUNY Plattsburgh Art Museums announced new exhibition openings on September 20 , 4:30-6:30pm in Burke in Myers, of Love Letters: Wood Type & Printing; Glimpses of Ecuador in Slatkin (also in Myers 2). Sept. 27, 4:30-6:30pm, the Rockwell Kent Gallery reopens with speakers and honored guests. Nina Winkel gallery opening is still delayed. SUNY Plattsburgh Art will also participate in the Farmers' Market on Durkee St on Sept 29, with leaf painting and more. Theme is the fall season.

Alice T. Miner Museum upcoming event is also Sept 29 – historical games with croquet & pickled limes. On Sept 14 will be a showing of Little Women. Sept 18 at the Burke Building at Miner Institute will be a program co-sponsored by Mountain Lake PBS. Oct 27 is a tour of Riverview Cemetery. FYI Ellen has some hair jewelry (Ellen)

NNYACGS Genealogy conference is Sat. Sept. 29 with Ed McGuire from VT speaking about DNA testing and genealogy in the morning, with Rob Rubado and Ann Marie Petrashune exploring French-Canadian music in the afternoon. The library is open and free for research house on Friday and Sunday. (Julie)

The Underground Railroad Museum has lots going on September 29 - The Chasm 5K Freedom Race is run is that day, and a street drive in Plattsburgh is being held. Jackie showed us the Harriet Tubman book created by 4th graders in Flint Hill, Virginia and published by NCUGRHA. Very impressive.

NYS Path Thru History weekend is Columbus Day Weekend.

Don't forget - ACCA Membership Renewals - \$75/organization, \$25/individual.

Note that the Clinton County History Conference mentioned previously has been postponed until 2019.

Meeting adjourned 9:20am.

NEXT MEETING –

Thursday, October 11th, 8:30 AM – North Country Chamber of Commerce, Route 9, Plattsburgh

Respectfully submitted,

Barb

Barb Benkwitt, ACCA Secretary