

ADIRONDACK COAST CULTURAL ALLIANCE
Minutes of the July 20, 2011 Meeting

Vice Chair John Krueger opened the meeting at 8:02am at CCHA, followed shortly by Chair Amanda Palmer. Present also were our hostess, Tricia Davies, Geri Favreau, Bill Glidden, Rick Laurin, Janine Scherline, Ashlea Keene, Howard Lowe, Jerry Bates and Stan Ransom.

Upon motion by Rick Laurin, seconded by Bill Glidden, the minutes of the June 15th meeting were approved. Janine Scherline, newly appointed Director of the Arts Center and Strand Theatre, was welcomed into the group. The Sunday news report noted that the 3% bed tax expires this fall. Consideration is being given to a possible increase to 4%.

Rick Laurin reported on the new agriculture group, which is planning story telling in Plattsburgh. August 27th at Irises Restaurant will feature the War of 1812, and later ones might cover farm life and Mr. Lozier and his car.

Geri Favreau discussed the Destination Master Plan's Subcommittee on Tourism, which is interested in marketing Fort Montgomery. A Clinton and Essex County Guidebook was discussed. John noted a tour book was worked on five years ago. The Essex County Tour Book has been done, using ANCA funding. We should invite Susan Fuller to our next meeting.

Interpretive Centers are planned for Beekmantown, Culver Hill, Champlain and other sites. We need to see arts sites increased. Go to the Chamber website to see what subcommittees are listed.

The Basin partnership has met the end of June, with Amanda, Celine Paquette, and John on it. They will report back to us. There is money available for wayside exhibits. There are also Wayside Homefront Heritage Trail grants.

Amanda Palmer reported that Senator Betty Little has announced a push for a new Museum Week to be in May, 2012, in cooperation with the Museum Association of New York (MANY). This would be a week long event, with free or discounted museum admission. The purpose is to promote our cultural resources. Senator Little wants to hear from us. Amanda suggested we support this week, but ask that it be the end of May and the first Saturday of June, when our Museum Day occurs. We have been celebrating Museum Day the first Saturday of June for the past four years and this is building up momentum and public interest.

Amanda suggested it would be a good idea for any of us interested to join MANY and keep informed on changing promotions of museums. They have grants and also an annual conference. There are plans for a Museum Institute at Camp Sagamore.

Ashlea Keene, who will be leaving the area the end of August, reported on the success of Circus Smirkus, from Vermont, who entertained during Mayor's Cup weekend at the Crete Center. The Transportation Museum broke even this year, better than last year. It is a great show for kids.

Ashlea and Rick reported on the Horseless Carriage Club, which is formed from owners of pre-1916 cars. They had planned a major tour in the Plattsburgh area, but their attendance suffered this year.

Bill Glidden told about the exhibit at the State Capital of 8 historic 1861 flags, which have just been restored.

Howard Lowe will send us information on our participating in the Lakes to Locks Passage and National Geographic website. We each should look into joining this organization, which will list your site and information about your events.

Upon motion by John Krueger, seconded by Geri Favreau, the meeting adjourned at 8:45am.

The next meeting will be at CCHA on Wednesday, August 17th, at 8am.

Respectfully submitted,

Stan Ransom
Secretary