

Adirondack Coast Cultural Alliance - Meeting

Thursday, Jul 9, 2015, 8:30 am @ Plattsburgh State Art Museum, Myers 232



Present – Ellen Adams (ACCA President & Alice T Miner Museum, Sandra Geddes (City of Plattsburgh Events Coordinator), John Krueger (City of Plattsburgh Historian; LCBP HAPAC), Jane Saxe-Kelting (Lyon Mountain), Don Wickman (Kent-Delord) Melissa Peck (CCHA & ACCA Coordinator), Julie Dowd (NNYACGS/CCHA), Samantha Bellinger (SUNY Plattsburgh Art Museum), Jacqueline Madison (NCUGRHA), Barb Benkwitt (Town of Schuyler Falls Historian)

The meeting was called to order at 8:37am by Ellen Adams with thanks to Sam for hosting; no guests to be introduced this month.

Minutes of the June 11th meeting – Barb said Ricky Laurin, in an emailed request, asked that June's published minutes be amended to add: *Key points are that all Board members should get a copy of the By-Laws; that any monies received for a certain purpose must be used for that specific purpose – building, activity booklets, etc.* – “ Motion to approve amended minutes made by Samantha, 2nd by Jackie – passed.

Treasurer's report for 2015 YTD through July 7 showed an increase, since LCBP grant money was received as of this report. Brief discussion of YTD balance and total to date of all Coloring Book proceeds, and long-term plan for coloring books. Further discussion needed. Question about due request – will be done in August. Motion to accept treasurer's report by John, 2nd by Don – passed. More detail will be in next month's report.

Coordinator Report and Museum Weekend Reports -

Museum Days – radio and TV spots were positive. Turn in any attendance figures still pending to Melissa.

LCBP Grants – applications due end of August. John reminded all that NY needs to put in more applications – there is money available. If help is needed, connect with Melissa or others who have been successful in writing and receiving grants. Partners and support letters are helpful. Some felt a grant workshop would be helpful – Ellen will look into an informal workshop before the grant deadline. Julie mentioned that PSU will offer a Grant Writing class in September 2016.

Continue to send events to Melissa for the website – please use the format at the bottom of the events page on www.adkcoastcultural.org so she can most easily update the website without editing your submittal.

Old Business

Museum column in Lake Champlain Weekly – Ellen is the key contact if you have an article to submit; the first article in the series is published the 2nd Wednesday in July! 1000 word max with hi-res pictures. Sam is readying an article, as are others. Get on the schedule with Ellen.

Mayor's Cup Weekend – All is now coordinated for this upcoming weekend, including opening the monument. Feedback on success at next ACCA meeting

New Business

ACCA response to vandalism at Riverside Cemetery/Plattsburgh – All are appalled at the destruction. John has some good information on the cemetery and will pass that to Ellen who will draft a letter to the Press-Republican, DenPubs to express our concern on the negative impact destruction has on our area, and to support any endeavor to promptly repair the damage before the Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration in mid-September.

Battle of Plattsburgh – Coordinate with Sandra Geddes of the city so she know which venues will be open and when and what to promote. Sandra will send an email. The dates are September 10-13, 2015, with great entertainment, reenactors, monument tours and more. Sunday will be another 'Destination Downtown' to extend the festivities through later Sunday. Volunteers are needed also – contact geddess@cityofplattsburgh-ny.gov. Reminder – keep

promoting the Passport during BOP so people can enter the drawing by September 30, 2015. Don Graves will speak at 11 am Sat. Sept 12 at Kent Delord House. "Lake Champlain Weekly" will have a series of articles on BOP. A countdown – 50 days to BOP – will be initiated. Send Facebook-ready short info to Sandra to assist in promotion. Look even for previously published articles and stories. John Krueger will be channeling Judge Bailey during the BOP weekend.

ADK Action Symposium – September 10th, 9:30-4:30 – Melissa has info on this event to be held at the Lake Placid Convention Center, for the Greater Adirondack region. Board chairs, directors and museum managers are free; cost \$75. Melissa will provide more information via email.

Coloring Books – A lively discussion ensued regarding the thousands of ACCA coloring books stored at the Chamber, how best to market and distribute them, what's next and when and how on this project established several years ago. Motion by John, seconded by Julie to provide coloring books to the Mayor's Cup display table for free distribution. Passed unanimously. Further discussion tabled, possibly for Board consideration of a proposal to be brought to the wider ACCA membership for discussion and resolution.

Museum Reports

Check the ACCA website for events

UGR – Jackie Madison shared that Confederate money included pictures of slaves – a little-known fact. August 6th is the annual Music Festival at the Ausable Chasm pavilion. They worked with David Graham and others to get the French translations into their museum. Positive feedback thus far.

CCHA – Civil War Camps are set for the next several weeks for youth; Citizen Camp is August 11-14; August 3rd Penny Clute speaks about Shell-Shock Treatment and Plattsburgh. August 16th is rescheduled Champlain/Rouses Point cemetery and frog farm tours. Melissa, with Anastasia Pratt, County Historian, will be presenting at the American Association of State and Local Historians September 16 -19.

AT Miner Museum – Steve Englehart of AARCH speaks on July 23, 7 pm on Historic Preservation.

Kent Delord – Don leads an AARCH walk on August 12th around Plattsburgh. August 13th and 22nd will be a 'Go Fly A Kite' event replicating Ben Franklin's experiment – workshop for ages 8-12. Watch 'Across the Fence' on July 30th to learn about the Webb family, by Don.

PSU Art – Ann Pember/Mina Angelos special watercolor show is just starting. The closing reception will be September 10th, 4-6pm. Summer Safari at end of July. Preschool program is held the 3rd Tuesday of each month.

Schuyler Falls Town – Two cemetery historic markers will be dedicated on Sunday July 26.

Barb also mentioned that another group with which she is involved is bringing Hermann's Royal Lipizzan Stallions to Peru for 3 shows only on August 21 (6pm) and August 22 and 23 (3pm) in Peru at the outdoor arena at Calkins/Clark Road at Mannix Rd. These are descendants of the Austrian horses saved by Gen. Patton before WWII.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:47 am

Next Meeting – Thursday, August 13th at 9:00 am at Lyon Mountain Mining & Railroad Museum, Standish Road, Lyon Mountain. September's meeting will be the 3rd Thursday on September 17 due to Battle of Plattsburgh commemoration the 2nd Thursday.

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Benkwitt

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ACCA Secretary

Upcoming dates:

September 10-13, Battle of Plattsburgh Commemoration; November, New York State History Month