

Adirondack Coast Cultural Alliance - Meeting

Thursday, Aug 8, 2015, 9 am @ Lyon Mountain Mining & Railroad Museum



Present – Ellen Adams (ACCA President & Alice T Miner Museum, Jane Saxe-Kelting & Claire Kowalewski (Lyon Mountain), Melissa Peck (CCHA & ACCA Coordinator), Julie Dowd (NNYACGS/CCHA), Helen Nerska (CCHA), Jackie Madison & Marlene Almodovar (NCUGRHA), Karen Batchelder (CEFL Library System), Ricky Laurin (Babbie & Miner Museums), Barb Benkwitt (Town of Schuyler Falls Historian), Margaret Leone (SUNY Plattsburgh, AATF).

The meeting was called to order at 9:08 am by Ellen Adams with thanks to Jane and Claire for hosting. We all introduced ourselves for guest Margaret Leone, with a welcome to her for attending.

Minutes of the July 9th meeting – Motion to approve minutes made by Jackie, 2nd by Ricky – passed.

Treasurer's report – A cumulative report for 2011 through August 5, 2015 was presented showing current balance \$1696.86 (plus \$509 in restricted funds for coloring book reprints). An additional \$500 is expected from the Basin grant, as well as dues – letter was sent requesting dues to be paid by September 15. So this should give us some working capital to possibly allocate for Museum Days posters, etc. (over and above paying the coordinator salary). Motion to accept treasurer's report by Helen, 2nd by Julie – passed.

Coordinator Report - Plattsburgh Public Library has added Caleb Mosher to our mailing list.

LCBP Grants – applications due August 28.

Battle of Plattsburgh – Sandra Geddes is looking for events for BOP – contact her as per e-mail. All events will be in downtown Plattsburgh; website is www.Champlain1812.com September 10-13, 2015. Museum Campus will also be open –CCHA, BOP/PAFB, CVT, & ATM. Countdown on Facebook. Opportunities to cross-promote with Destination Downtown. Buttons at various locations – CCHA, KDL, Co-op, Chamber Studley, Cornerstone Books, etc 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 – August is PSU Art/Samantha, September, Alice T. Miner Museum / Ellen, October is CCHA, November and December are open (November is NYS History Month); January 2016 open with February 2016 by NCUGRHA – Underground Railroad, as February is Black History Month. (March, 2016 and following also open...) Connect with Ellen to get scheduled. (Jackie mentioned the images of whites painted as slaves on Confederate money – perhaps for the column.

Battle of Plattsburgh – Monument open again! The open monument was a big success at Mayor's Cup – thanks to those who helped. Distributing the activity books (free) was a big hit. Julie will again coordinate opening the monument during BOP. Karen Batchelder volunteers to help Saturday morning, Ricky perhaps Saturday afternoon. It will be open from 10-4 both Saturday and Sunday, but closed Saturday from during the parade (1pm - ~2 pm). Motion made by Barb, seconded by Julie, to again distribute the ACCA activity books for free – Passed. (Note that 200 each of agriculture and Miner were withdrawn from the stash at the Chamber; 300 of the BOP withdrawn. Amounts used will be provided at the September meeting.)

Reminder – Adirondack Coast Chair is available to borrow; contact Amber at the Chamber

New Business

Margaret Leone of SUNY Plattsburgh and the American Association of Teachers of French - Margaret, also the president of Pays du Nord, described the opportunities for museums to collaborate with local students of French, in middle/high school, and college. She described the background and a wonderful example of collaboration in the Underground Railroad brochure translated into French by high school and college students. This provides a

welcome 'cheat sheet' to French speakers so they can better enjoy the museum, and the students can learn more about specialized vocabularies of different historical periods. CORPUS on line is an example of such a dictionary. We discussed the benefits of a totally French website (as contrasted to one with both French and English on the same site), cultural awareness and pride in French-Canadian heritage here in Clinton County, which sometimes is lacking, programs in libraries that might be possible, and need identification by the museums/libraries/towns of what projects to pursue. Folks described their attempts at speaking French or other language as being appreciated by the native speakers...so keep pursuing! Contact Margaret for more information Phone: (518) 564-3838 Email: queguimm@plattsburgh.edu

The Museum Education Act (NY State Senate Bill 5001 –

Ellen encourages all to send a letter of support from individual museums, and she will send a letter of support under ACCA with all names. Contact Ellen for more information. A handout of the bill was provided, co-sponsored by Betty Little.

CVNHP FY 2016 Workplan Ideas –

By August 18, HAPAC of LCBP is meeting to look at ideas for the future. To suggest, submit 4-6 sentences on possible focus areas for the future. Ideas include Community Heritage Day – to encourage the community to share their interesting family archives and have it digitized. Likely more information at the next meeting.

Museum Reports

Check the ACCA website for events. Amber at the Chamber also has contacts in Quebec for publicity.

NNYACGS - The annual genealogy conference will be Saturday, September 19 at the Village Center in Dannemora (40 Emmons St) from 10a-3p. Speakers and exhibits (all free) and lunch available (proceeds to local kids' diabetes camp charity).

NCUGRHA -UGR – A 5K Walk/Run co-sponsored with Ausable Chasm and coordinated by Linda Richardson will be held Saturday, October 17.

CCHA – Aug 16 – Frog Farm/Rouses Point/Champlain Tour. Aug 23 – Catholic Summer School Marker Dedication and presentation at the Museum. Open during BOP, including Monument. Sept 26 – Out of the Attic at the Rec Center. October 24 5-8:30 pm – 70th Anniversary Party at Valcour.

Lyon Mountain – Raffle being held.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:29 am

Next Meeting – September 17, 8:30 am at the Carriage House of the Kent Delord House Museum (due to Battle of Plattsburgh commemoration the 2nd Thursday); October meeting 2nd Thursday – October 8, 8:30 am, at the Town Hall, Schuyler Falls, in Morrisonville, 997 Mason St just off Route 22B in the hamlet (and the bridge opens Wed Sept 16!)

Respectfully submitted,

Barb Benkwitt

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ACCA Secretary

*Upcoming dates:
November, New York State History Month*