

AMERICA 250

CONNECTICUT

America 250 | CT Commission Governance Subcommittee Meeting Monday, November 18, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. via Zoom Minutes

Attendees

Subcommittee

Deborah Schander
Melvette Hill
Denise Merrill
Jason Mancini
Michael Werner
Megan Baker
Arienne Orozco

CTH Staff

Shelyn Oliver
Cyndi Tolosa
Rachel Gonzalez

The meeting began at **3:02 p.m.**

1. Minutes Approval

a. [October 7, 2024](#)

Motion to approve: D. Merrill; Seconded: D. Schander; All in favor, 0 no, 0 abstain

2. Affiliate Program

Twenty three applications were received for this round. The next scheduled Governance subcommittee meeting is in February - discussion was held on whether ad hoc meetings should be added to the calendar to approve new affiliate applications on a more regular basis. The consensus among the subcommittee was that this is a good opportunity to raise awareness and build momentum, so 30-minute monthly meetings will be scheduled with a focus on affiliate application review & approval, in addition to the longer quarterly meeting for other business.

Staff will create a list and/or a map to show which organizations are approved affiliates by legislative district for use in advocacy and to connect organizations for regionally-based projects.

a. Discussion on any flagged applications

i. [Review form](#)

ii. [Full applications](#)

No new applications have been flagged by staff or subcommittee members. End Witch Hunts' application was carried over from the October deadline, with additional information on how the organization ties in to the Commission's themes submitted by their representative over the weekend. Subcommittee members voiced concerns that some of the ties felt tenuous. End Witch Hunts is speaking with the Old State House regarding an event; subcommittee members would like to gain feedback from Commissioner Sally Whipple on this prior to making a final determination to ensure there is not something that is being lost in translation.

- b. Vote on applications
 - i. Motion to approve all 23 new applications: All in favor, 0 no, 0 abstain
 - ii. Motion to table End Witch Hunts to December meeting pending additional follow up: All in favor, 0 no, 0 abstain
- 3. Annual Report
 - a. Confirm Timeline
 - i. Draft reports due from Subcommittee chairs 11/22
 - ii. Next Steps

Drafts are expected from subcommittee chairs by the end of this week. Staff will pull together an outline of the report and timeline for completion for review during the December Governance meeting so the subcommittee may review and determine next steps for completion. Along with the final report, staff will create an infographic-type document that can be more easily digested to share with the governor's office and legislators. D. Merrill suggested that the subcommittee share the draft with the Governor's office and use it to try to get buy-in, which was generally well received.

- 4. Other Business as Needed - None

The meeting ended at **3:33 p.m.**

The next meeting will be **Monday, December 16, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.**