

AMERICA 250

CONNECTICUT

America 250 | CT Commission Community & Organizational Engagement Subcommittee Meeting

Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at 2:00 p.m.

via Zoom

Minutes

Attendees

Subcommittee

Amrys Williams

Liz Shapiro

Jonathan Slifka

Andy Horowitz

Margaret Khan

Cathy Labadia

CTH Staff

Rachel Gonzalez

Scott Wands

The meeting started at 2:02 p.m.

1. Welcome & Updates

R. Gonzalez shared some updates from the national America 250 commission, which as of now will be moving forward with many of the same plans and goals as previously, and that the White House Task Force on America 250 was established but it isn't yet clear if or how that may affect the Connecticut commission.

A. Williams shared a brief update on the Connecticut 1775: The Revolution is Coming conference.

2. Conference Updates

R. Gonzalez shared updates on the program for the commission's conference and that registration is now live.

3. Program Evaluation & Attendance Tracking

a. [Draft form](#)

CTH staff has drafted a program evaluation & attendance tracking form for use by affiliates and other organizations that are hosting 250th events. This form will allow for more accurate reporting to the state and in making plans for future resources and organization needs. R. Gonzalez shared the form with the group and requested feedback from the subcommittee. Suggestions included:

- Shorten the length - potentially by tying to events calendar where much of this data is being collected already
- Offer a "carrot" for organizations to complete - a data dashboard
- Have reminders to complete triggered after events have concluded
- Demographic data fields should be optional - use caution in gathering demographic data & ensure that participants are completing data surveys rather than organizations

- Give options to share fun things about their events to make it an opportunity for publicity - share images, include something exciting that happened, etc.
4. Local Committee Outreach
- a. Outstanding towns
 - i. [Contact List](#)
 - ii. [Email Template](#)

R. Gonzalez provided an update on CTH staff's continuing efforts to build a municipal contact list, including outreach to local government leaders at the Council of Small Towns Annual Meeting. Upcoming initiatives that will require municipal participation include a proclamation that the commission hopes to have all cities and towns adopt in summer of 2025. A spreadsheet of outstanding municipalities was built and subcommittee members were requested to conduct outreach to small groups of municipalities to assist in building list. As there was no other business to attend to, the meeting was adjourned to allow subcommittee members time to work on outreach.

The meeting ended at 2:46 p.m.