

America 250 | CT Commission Local Committee Meeting Tuesday, March 25, 2025 at 12:00 p.m. Virtual via Zoom Meeting Notes

1. Welcome

a. Thank you Gioia Zack & Wesley Broulik from Wethersfield & Pamme Jones from Ridgefield for speaking on behalf of the commission at the Legislative Office Building in late February. We were able to connect with legislators & the governor's office on the work that towns are planning in different corners of the state.

2. America 250 | CT Commission Updates

- a. Two Lights for Tomorrow Flyer and Form
 - i. Two Lights on Friday, April 18, 2025; Day of Service on Saturday, April 19, 2025
 - ii. Please use the flyer to publicize in your own networks as appropriate. The form is intended to be simple & lets us know who is participating in one or both days of this event. It is not a requirement to participate in both days!
 - iii. Staff is in conversation to have lights on in the state capitol building; this goes against their typical policy so this may or may not happen. Participation on the local level (including municipal government buildings, museums, libraries, schools, individual homes, etc.) is encouraged.
 - iv. Lights can be whatever is easiest and best for the organization spotlights, regular lights, decorative lanterns.
 - v. Form can be filled out by each individual that plans to participate we'll be putting together a map and rather than having one pin for each town, we'd love to have one pin for each physical location that's participating.

b. Conference Follow Up

- i. Thanks to those who came! Please complete the <u>participant survey</u> if you did. We are not planning on a conference in 2026 at this time but would love to know how we did & whether there feels like a need for another one next year.
- ii. Recordings from some sessions will be available soon for those who missed it.

c. Survey on Committee Needs

i. This survey includes questions on what town committees need from the commission and are able/willing to participate in. Responses will help us formalize the feedback we've been receiving and make plans for what we'll share with the group over the next several months. It also includes a question on plans for July 4, 2026 - please let us know if your town will be able to participate.

3. Questions & Discussion

a. Statewide items to be aware of:

- i. The commission is planning a recommitment ceremony for 2026. Please respond to the survey form to let us know if your town can participate on July 4.
- ii. A proclamation for municipalities to adopt will be circulated once we have finalized language with the Governor's office.
- iii. Many towns are interested in planting a tree in 2026 potentially seedlings that have descended from the Charter Oak. Plans will be shared as they develop.

Helpful Links:

- Event Calendar
- Local Commission Listing
- Affiliate Program
- Federal Grants
- CT Humanities Grants
- AASLH Field Guide, Programming Guide, and Local Commission Technical Leaflet
- Two Lights for Tomorrow
- Funding Resources
- Private Facebook group
- Recording from Planning Workshop