

AMERICA 250

CONNECTICUT

America 250 | CT Commission

Affiliate Meeting

Wednesday, October 8, 2025 at 3:30 p.m. via Zoom

Meeting Notes

Watch the Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wkeLfhn4mBw>

1. Commission Updates

- a. Next Commission Meeting: 10/15/25, 10:00 a.m. at Phoebe Griffin Noyes Library, Old Lyme: All are welcome to come to the meeting or watch [live via YouTube](#) - we do monitor comments online and will include them as we are able.
- b. [Affiliate Spotlight Form](#): Please submit this form to be highlighted on the commission's social media.
- c. [Submit 250th Events](#): There is a new option to bulk-submit events linked from this page via a Google Doc or Excel spreadsheet. Please follow the provided instructions and contact info@ct250.org with questions.
- d. [Spread the Word](#): We are looking to continue adding affiliates; please spread the word about the commission and the affiliate program as you are able using the linked flyer. By our January affiliate meeting we will have information about how affiliates can participate in the commission's July 4, 2026 plans.
- e. National Updates: See the [Commission Events](#) page for up-to-date information on national initiatives that Connecticut organizations may be interested in participating in, including the premiere of the Ken Burns American Revolution documentary in November.
- f. Give 250 Connecticut
 - i. [Register](#)
 - ii. [Contract](#)
 - iii. [Webinars, Trainings, Recordings](#)

Registration is open for Give 250 Connecticut at www.give250ct.org through October 17, 2025. This will be 5 days of online giving (October 27-31). Approved affiliates which are 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations are eligible to participate and raise funds for their 250th initiatives. All participating organizations must return the linked contract. Webinars, trainings, and recordings are available at the link. Questions may be sent to give250@ct250.org.

2. Breakouts by Interest

- a. Give 250 Connecticut/Fundraising
- b. Program and Event Planning
- c. Marketing

Meeting attendees joined breakout rooms to discuss topics of interest.

3. Report Out

- a. Give 250 & Fundraising group: Amrys Wiliams spoke for the group and requested a press release to be shared, as well as advice on how to reconcile Give 250 fundraising with the end of year appeals that many organizations are gearing up for. Cyndi recommended focusing messaging for Give 250 specifically on 250th projects to ensure that organizations are not “stealing” from the operational support they may receive from end-of-year donors. She also noted that prizes for Give 250 participants will be forthcoming, ranging from \$250 to \$1,000 and potentially up to \$2,500.
- b. Program/Event Planning group: Jeff Devereaux spoke for the group and shared the enthusiasm for collaboration, as well as the potential for affiliates to participate in Hartford Bonanza on July 4, 2026.
- c. Marketing: June Henley spoke for the group and noted that many are using Facebook, local newspapers, and community calendars to promote their events. The group requested a checklist of places to publicize their programming that can be used by affiliate organizations; CTH staff will be putting this together and sharing. Susan Porter & Alice Ridgway also shared that their constituents learn about events from organization blast emails, so they collaborate with partners in their area to spread the word.

4. Other Business

In 2026, the commission will be increasing promotion of events on the community calendar via monthly e-blasts (assessing frequency based on volume of events).

Helpful Links

- [Affiliate Resource Page](#)
- [Facebook Group for CT Organizers](#)
- [250th Planning Workshop](#)
- [AASLH 250th Planning Handbook](#)