



**America 250 | CT Commission
Governance Subcommittee Meeting
Wednesday, October 8, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom
Minutes**

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nAVmmmwsHwo>

Attendees

Subcommittee

Arienne Orozco, Chair
Jason Mancini
Michael Werner
Deborah Schander

CTH Staff

Rachel Gonzalez

The meeting started at 10:02 a.m.

1. Minutes Approval
 - a. [September 10, 2025](#)

Motion: Jason Mancini, Second: Deborah Schander, Vote: Yes - 4, No - 0, Abstain - 0

2. Affiliate Program Discussion & Approvals
 - a. Discussion on any flagged applications
 - i. [Application Review Form](#)
 - ii. [Application Cover Sheets](#)
 - iii. [Full Applications](#)
 - b. Vote on applications - October & updated Middlesex Parish 250 application (original application from January 2025)

All 24 applications (new and Middlesex Parish 250 tabled from January) were bundled together for one vote. There were no concerns or points of discussion for any applications. It was noted that many libraries applied this month; CTH staff held an information session with the Connecticut Library Association and commission member Margaret Khan on October 1, and many attendees applied.

Motion to approve all 24 applications: Deborah Schander, Second: Michael Werner, Vote: Yes - 4, No - 0, Abstain - 0

3. Commission Meeting - October 15, 2025

Arienne Orozco opened conversation on plans for the commission meeting on 10/15. The Governance subcommittee update will include a reminder of the Annual Report to the Governor (due in January 2026). It will also include an update on the current number of affiliates (roughly 150) and encouragement to continue to share the affiliate program amongst their networks.

Jason Mancini recommended highlighting our goal of 250 affiliate organizations by the 250th to inspire participation.

There was also discussion of the Secretary of the States' race/gender polling. This commission is not required to submit to the SOTS office. R. Gonzalez noted that the makeup of the commission and its subcommittees has not changed much, if at all, since the polling completed in 2024. J. Mancini requested that polling be conducted regardless to document. A. Orozco noted that the SOTS survey has not updated the terminology on its survey, so the language on the commission's survey can reflect that.

4. Other Business as Needed

No other business.

The meeting ended at 10:13 AM.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 12, 2025, 10:00-10:30 AM