

AMERICA 250

CONNECTICUT

America 250 | CT Commission
Local Committee Meeting
Tuesday, February 17, 2026, at 12:30 p.m.
Virtual via Zoom
Meeting Notes

Meeting Recording: <https://youtu.be/3PHmfiqSCmA>

1. Welcome - new attendees introduced themselves.
2. America 250 | CT Commission Updates/Reminders
 - a. [Regional Gatherings](#) - early March

Planners are encouraged to attend one of these regional gatherings, which have been set up around the state and loosely divided up by Council of Government region. It will be an informal opportunity to connect with affiliate organizations and other planners in their area. If you wish to attend, please RSVP at least 48 hours in advance of the gathering you plan to attend. You are not required to attend the one specifically for your COG.

- b. Planner Gathering - Monday, April 13 in Ridgefield

Northeast Regional 250th planners will be meeting in Ridgefield on 4/13. The exact schedule is TBD, but the bulk of programming will be held from 11-2:30 with opportunities to connect with planners from throughout the northeast. Registration information will be forthcoming soon for those who are interested in attending.

- c. July 4, 2026

The full schedule for Hartford activities will be available in mid-late March, including timing for the recommitment ceremony, related events hosted by partner organizations, and an opportunity to table in Bushnell park for municipalities that are interested in doing so.

The commission will soon share a survey for municipalities to share their planned events for July 4. CT250 will have a landing page on CTvisit.com going live soon, and this will assist in populating the page and making your events more visible to CT residents and visitors.

3. Questions & Discussion

Question on funding opportunities: The state commission is likely not going to be receiving federal funds that can be turned back out to municipalities. There are some federal grant funds still available including the National Endowment for the Humanities' "[Celebrate America!](#)" grant, and Connecticut Humanities' quick grants lines are potentially an option for eligible projects. Kari Wall shared that the [Community Foundation of Eastern Connecticut](#) has education-related funds available.

Towns shared that their plans won't be contained to just July 4. Some towns have already begun hosting events and will be continuing through 2026.

Connecticut Open House Day - date has been set for Saturday, June 13, 2026. The Office of Marketing & Tourism will be sending out additional information later in March.

Helpful Links

Event Calendar

- [Event Calendar](#)
- Event Bulk Submission (For affiliates & municipalities only): [Google Sheets](#) or [Excel](#)
- [Commission Events](#) (now includes national initiatives)

Commission's Network

- [Municipal Proclamation Template](#)
- [Local Commission Listing](#)
- [Affiliate Program](#)
- [Private Facebook group](#) for planners (municipal & affiliate)

Funding Resources

- [Federal Grants](#)
- [CT Humanities Grants](#)
- [Funding Resources](#)

America250/National Initiatives

- National commission: Logo/Wordmark [Information](#) & [Sublicensing Agreement](#)
- [America250 Playbook](#)
- [America's Potluck](#) - July 5, 2026
- [Spirit of America](#) - July 8, 2026

Planning Resources

- AASLH [Field Guide](#), [Programming Guide](#), and [Local Commission Technical Leaflet](#)
- [Recording from Planning Workshop](#)
- [2025 Conference Recordings](#)
- [Classifieds Board](#) - to share/find services for your programming
- [Media Checklist](#)
- Statewide Exhibit [Interest Survey](#)
- [Our Next 250 Webinar](#)

Education Resources

- Educator [Curriculum](#)
- [Local History Project](#)
- [Flyer](#) for education resources
- [My America](#)

Reporting

- [2026 Programming Report](#)