

# AMERICA 250

## CONNECTICUT

America 250 | CT Commission  
Community & Organizational Engagement Subcommittee Meeting  
Tuesday, March 24, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom  
Minutes

Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tLQCXVNee2Y>

### Attendees

Subcommittee  
Amrys Williams  
Margaret Khan  
Catherine Labadia  
Jon Slifka  
Melvette Hill

CTH Staff  
Cyndi Tolosa  
Rachel Gonzalez

The meeting started at 1:02 p.m.

#### 1. Welcome & Updates

##### a. Affiliate/Local Committee Gatherings [\[Recap\]](#)

Cyndi Tolosa provided an update on the gatherings with affiliate organizations and local committees. There were 7 meetings held around the state, all different and all good conversations. The linked recap document includes a summary and a full recap of what's happening around the state. One consistent theme was a desire among organizations and municipalities for support in marketing their events.

##### b. CT Visit Webinar & Migration

[CTVisit.com/CT250](http://CTVisit.com/CT250) is live. Staff hosted a webinar with Rachel Lenda from the Statewide Office of Marketing & Tourism earlier today on how to post events. The webinar will be published on the [CT250.org](http://CT250.org) website by the end of the week.

##### c. April 13 - NE Regional Planners - [RSVP](#)

The Connecticut commission is hosting 250th planners from around the Northeast in Ridgefield on April 13. Subcommittee members were asked to let us know if they are planning to join us by submitting their RSVPs. Secretary of the State Thomas will be offering a welcome and we'll be meeting with planners from across New England & New York. Optional tours will be held in the morning and afternoon with the main meeting 11:00 - 3:30 at Keeler Tavern Museum and History Center.

#### 2. Outreach Updates

##### a. [Affiliate Program](#) - who's missing?

C. Tolosa and Rachel Gonzalez noted that staff has done some outreach since the last meeting with mixed results. They had a positive conversation with IRIS and they are planning something for New Haven around July 4th - they didn't feel like the 250th was for them until we got in touch, and they are excited. Subcommittee members were asked to please share the affiliate

flyer with organizations in your orbit that might still be interested - there are currently 212 approved affiliates with 3 deadlines to go before July 4.

b. [Local Committees](#)

There are 24 towns left to go on our contact list, and some of them definitely are planning for the 250th. Additional outreach is needed - C. Tolosa and R. Gonzalez requested that subcommittee members contact those in their network who may be doing work in these towns, as personal outreach has been more successful than the cold emails/mailings from staff. One thought is to share the person working on the 250th in a specific town with town leadership, and request that person be designated as the official contact for the town. Amrys Williams noted that she has contacts via the Connecticut League of Museums and can follow up. Melvette Hill will do some outreach to legislators.

c. Upcoming conferences/programs to attend

- i. Recently attended conferences - CT Digital Humanities Conference, CT1776
- ii. Coming up (planned) - CT Library Association Conference presentation, April 27/28; attend CT League of Museums conference, June 1
- iii. Coming up (potential to attend) - Stowe Center Symposium at Trinity College, April 18; CT River Museum does River Symposium at Wesleyan, May 2; CT History Day at CCSU, May 2

3. Other Business

No other business.

The meeting ended at 1:33 p.m.

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 12, 2026 at 1:00 p.m.