

AMERICA 250

CONNECTICUT

America 250 | CT Commission
Governance Subcommittee Meeting
Wednesday, April 8, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom
Minutes

Watch Recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fR77HUuogew>

Attendees

Subcommittee

Arienne Orozco, Chair
Deborah Schander
Michael Werner

CTH Staff

Cyndi Tolosa
Rachel Gonzalez

The meeting started at 10:02 a.m.

Pending quorum, the meeting opened with discussion of the Northeast Regional 250th Planners meeting next week. Arienne Orozco requested an updated agenda to review and noted some members of the Secretary's office may be attending.

Cyndi Tolosa noted that the commission meeting is scheduled for next Wednesday, 4/15, and requested any feedback on additions to the agenda. Quorum was reached at 10:07 a.m. and the meeting shifted to the planned agenda.

1. Minutes Approval
 - a. [March 11, 2026](#)

Subcommittee members reviewed and agreed that there were no edits needed.

Vote to approve March minutes: Yes - 3; 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

Discussion of applications: One application, Connecticut Explored, had a "no" response to one of the values alignment question, all subcommittee members were satisfied with the response and agreed to keep their application in the approval slate.

Vote to approve all 15 applications under consideration: Yes - 3; No - 0; Abstain - 0

This brings the total number of approved affiliates to 227.

3. Upcoming Meetings

- a. Northeast Regional Planners - April 13
- b. Commission - April 15

The subcommittee returned to conversation about the northeast regional 250th planners meeting - all regions except Maine & Canada are represented.

In conversation about next week's commission meeting - A. Orozco made a request for an update on the white oak tree project, ceremonies and events that commissioners may be interested in or requested to attend. She also shared updates on engagement projects the Secretary of the States' office is working on, including a "Flat Roger Sherman" activity that they'll be sharing soon. Subcommittee members agreed that a flyer which shares pertinent info about the affiliate program and projects for individuals to engage in would be helpful & staff agreed to create one to share with commissioners.

4. Other Business as Needed

No other business.

The meeting ended at 10:25 a.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 13, 2026, 10:00-10:30 AM