

250th Anniversary Commission

Arts & Cultural Heritage Committee Meeting

October 19, 2023, 2pm ET Via Microsoft Teams

The meeting commenced at 2:15 pm ET

Attending: Cynthia Davis, State of Vermont
Tom Hughes, Historian
James Lockridge, Big Heavy World

I. Land Acknowledgement

James shared the following land acknowledgement: We wish to acknowledge that in Vermont, we are within the unceded territory of the original inhabitants of N'dakinna (en-DAH-kee-NAH), the Abenaki, and in the southwest portion, the Mohican people. Their traditional and ongoing relationships with the land call us to learn to be better caretakers of the land as well. We offer respect to their ancestors, their elders, and their relations: past, present, and emerging. We recognize and wish to honor the responsibility that accompanies this acknowledgement of those relationships.

II. Approval of the agenda

With no quorum, the agenda was not discussed.

III. Public input

No public was present for comment.

IV. Free-form conversation

With Eileen, Melody, Christopher, and Laura unable to join this meeting, Tom and James held a brief free-form conversation. Topics included historic and entertainment program concepts for Castleton in May, 2025 and separate submissions of Letters of Interest to a program funding source.

James described his interest in communicating with the leadership of arts and cultural heritage institutions in Vermont to ensure all 250th-related planning and funding opportunities may be enjoyed. The Semiquincentennial event is approaching quickly, and early awareness of the state's hope for programming in 2026 is necessary to meet potential for a wide scope of commemorations. Limitations of human resources, time and funding (including cyclical grant application deadlines approaching quickly and only annually) should be addressed with early awareness, a sector-specific outreach role of the Arts and Cultural Heritage Committee.

VI. Old business

No old business was discussed.

VII. New business

No new business was discussed.

VIII. Confirm next regular meeting date

The next meeting will be Thursday, November 16 at 2pm ET via Microsoft Teams. This is a regular monthly third-Thursday meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:40 pm ET.