

Agenda
Vermont 250th Anniversary Commission
Administration and Finance Committee
July 16, 2024
1:00pm – 1:30pm
Microsoft Teams Meeting

Members Present: John Krueger
Laura V. Trieschmann
Jim Brangan
Stephen Perkins

I. Introductions, Announcements, and Public Comment

- Megan Albert attended 250th Conference in DC. Moving forward, she will be meeting with Stephen Perkins staff on regular basis and relaying information onto 250th website.
- CVNHP grants approved and will not need EAs. Letters going out today.
- Releasing proposal for 2026 grants that will again focus on American Revolution.
- Laura met with Beth from Fort Ticonderoga, had lunch on Friday, they're pulling together big northern dept that is NY, VT, Quebec, Indigenous Tribes. Beth is very interested in additional funding for printing brochures, etc. Laura definitely wants to be involved and make sure the 250th logo is attached to their marketing and events. I Love NY is a big funder, can potentially involve VT Tourism Dept.

II. Approval of Meeting Minutes – [June 18, 2024](#)
Minutes approved, no edits required.

III. Update on Vermont 250th Anniversary Planning Grants – Steve Perkins

- Eileen on vacation, but back tomorrow. Yesterday was closing date for last round so once Eileen is back, we will have a final number of applicants.

IV. Next Steps for Administration and Finance Committee – All

- Decisions need to be made regarding funding asks, but none of them are very solid. Committee is not concerned with grant money, but would like to come up with a total amount that they can regrant to organizations around the state. Overall, proposals need to be stronger, asks seem partisan.
- Commission must start thinking of signature event(s) – fireworks, education plan, symposium, etc. This will need the Commission's stamp of approval, rather than multiple different proposals. Ex: For 1991 bicentennial, the state organized a VSO concert on waterfront.
- Laura added that the asks don't need to be extremely detailed, but they have to start pulling something together. Perhaps work backwards, money

first and then divide it between events. Window for asking will start to close soon.

- Jim agreed with this idea. Commission can have different levels of grant funding, ex: local events get \$5000 grants, regional events can get \$10k, statewide signature event could get \$40-50k.
- Stephen expanded on this idea. Total legislative ask can play off 250th anniversary and ask for \$250k per year for 2026 and 2027. Can go to government budget writers, independent lawmakers if no response.
- Jim culminated discussion in final idea to propose grant program that will fund 3 signature events and 2 grant programs. Will spur competitiveness vs entitlement.
- Laura has list of \$60k that Research and Historical put forward regarding new/updated historic markers. Usually spends \$35k on markers a year, so can ask to get increase during revolutionary war anniversary to make up for higher demand.
- Laura will get to work on monetary ask for grant program.

Next Meeting: September 17 at 1:00 p.m.