

**DRAFT Minutes**  
**Vermont 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commission**  
*Research and Historical Committee*  
**April 17, 2024**  
**3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**  
**Virtual Meeting Only via:**  
**Microsoft Teams Meeting**

- I. Welcome, approve minutes from previous meeting
  - a. In attendance/introductions: Angie Grove, Paul Deslandes, Tom Hughes, Susan McClure, Chris Sabick, Matthew Keagle, Alexi Garrett
  - b. Minutes approved by consensus (Angie and Susan)
  
- II. Public comment
  
- III. Talk about timing/schedule for future meetings (changing in May)
  - a. **Moving to Mondays at 3pm starting mid-May (starting May 13)**
  
- IV. Logo/branding updates
  - a. Design firm will share logo package and how to use it
  - b. Website will use brand guidelines and be coming soon
  
- V. Funding request: feedback from Commissioner on committee's suggested funding requests:
  - a. *Vermont's 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commission will fund new research to highlight new voices and stories related to the Revolution that result in public history programs and products that fit within the 4 themes laid out by the 250<sup>th</sup> Commission (Forming Identities, Conflict and Struggle, Diversity of Experience, and Legacies). Examples of programs or products may include films, exhibits, public programs, curricula, publications, etc. Grants of \$5,000-\$10,000 for 14 projects statewide (\$100,000).*
    - i. Laura asked if we know of any partners who are working on this- Susan suggested that this would be working with Vermont Humanities (**Susan will confirm this with Christopher/Vermont Humanities and report back to the committee**); Angie suggested VHS as backup for Vermont Humanities
  - b. *"Vermont Now and Next"- a historical and future-focused symposium bringing together Vermont's higher education institutions, public history sites, students, and the public focused on legacies of the Revolutionary Era in Vermont and its impact on our world today (speakers, interactive experiences, discussions, hosted at UVM) \$150,000*
    - i. Laura asked for a budget for this request- **Susan will confirm timeline on a budget from Laura and report back** on when we need to develop a budget

- ii. Potential partners at UVM are Center for Research on Vermont or English Dept.; UVM could be the Land Grant University but other commissioners and committee members would take a lead role in developing content
- iii. TBD on who the project manager of something like this would be
- iv. Tom asked about the timeline of the FY26 budget and when research would start; Susan shared that the timeline was set by the state budget process and that the committee has been asked to provide suggestions for FY26 budget requests
- v. Tom feels like the priority is for the grants because it would be open to wider audience and not just academics; Paul shared that the symposium would be open to the public and special emphasis would be on public outreach. Paul also shared that the symposium could be a series of public and academic events; Angie shared that the framing of the symposium also is future-focused and looking at the legacy of the Revolutionary War to make it inclusive and inviting
- vi. Susan brought up option to partner with Vermont Humanities on their fall festival- is there an option for Vermont Humanities to have this as their theme of the fall events? Susan will confirm with Christopher if this could be part of the Fall Festival programming; VHS as other partner option
- vii. Question for the commission on the process of vetting all of these requests and how we're going to come up with the final request- Susan will confirm with Laura on process and report back

## VI. Roadside Markers

- a. Come up with ideas for roadside markers (and partners/authorities who would be the right people to write them). This is the list of all that currently exist: <https://accd.vermont.gov/historic-preservation/roadside-markers>
- b. Suggested roadside marker ideas:
  - i. Fanny Allen Sr. (either grave in Burlington or site of her house in Westminister)
  - ii. Fanny Allen Jr. (hospital location)
  - iii. Ethan Allen Homestead house (site Ethan Allen died)
  - iv. Ethan Allen Homestead site (sign for the land, including Indigenous, French, loyalist, Allen family, tenant farming stories)
  - v. Arnold's Bay
  - vi. Old Fire Station/Rutland Historical Society now
  - vii. Bardwell Hotel (now Bardwell House)
  - viii. Immaculate Heart of Mary (Rutland)
  - ix. Remember Baker story/location (maybe in production now)
  - x. Putney Inn
  - xi. Newport (Black man mentioned in Ethan Allen Homestead archives, more research is needed on him and his story),
  - xii. Crean Brush (Loyalist lived in Westminister, Fanny Allen Sr's stepfather, set the Bounty for Seth Warner, Remember Baker, Ethan Allen- location would be site of his house Westminister, working with Westminister Historical Society)

- xiii. Ann Story (grave or cabin site in Shoreham)
- xiv. Hands Cove/Old Herrick House (where Green Mntn Boys crossed lake to take Ticonderoga)
- xv. John Peters (appointed to Continental Congress, didn't go, became loyalist, also could include story of his wife)
- xvi. Death of Sgt Archelaus Tupper 1781 (Orwell, but more research is needed)
- xvii. Col. Thomas Johnson, Newbury (maybe at his house in Newbury or site at which he was abducted by the British)
- xviii. Dinah Mattis (enslaved woman and her daughter whom Ebenzer Allen presented emancipation certificate in 1777)
- xix. Vermont Assembly Meeting site, 1781 (Charleston, NH!)
- c. The committee also noted the lack of markers about Indigenous and Vermonters of color and a desire to support more production of that content
- d. Susan will share this list with Laura

- VII. Discuss hosting a webinar/training session about 250<sup>th</sup> Commission
  - a. When/how/who is the audience? Angie suggested that this be for historical businesses, organizations, town committees, etc. Targeted audience
  - b. Format (presentation + Q&A session)? Sharing the presentation and take questions
  - c. Host/presenter? Angie said that she would be willing to take this on (thank you Angie!) and there could be someone talking about the Commission side of things
  - d. Susan, Laura, and Christopher are doing a presentation at the League of Local Historical Societies
  - e. Susan will share this with the commission and see how to set up and promote

- VIII. Additional requests from 250<sup>th</sup> Commission
  - a. None to share at this meeting

- IX. [As time allows] Projects/Updates: Committee members share short updates on their work

- X. Confirm next meeting date: May 13