

Final Minutes
Vermont 250th Anniversary Commission
School and Teacher Outreach Committee
April 16, 2024 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Members Present:

Jonah Spivak
Martha Deiss
Chris Sheehan
Rich Strum
Victoria Sample
Lisa Bresler
Israel Provoncha
Elsa Gilbertson

Absent:

Laura Trieschmann
Stuart Lilie
Catherine Delneo
Meg Mallory
Phil Holland

- I. Introductions** provided for new VDHP employee Lindsay Pacheco.
- II. No changes to the agenda.**
- III. March minutes approved.**
- IV. No public comment.**
- V. Old Business**

Summer Teacher Education Programming (\$12,000 reserved)

- Spoke to Laura regarding proposal that Martha and Lisa put together, unsure of full program cost and if \$12,000 will be enough to get program started. Will reach out to VT public about costs.
 - Discussed school capacity to create mini videos. The biggest cost factor would be bussing if students had to leave school property. CTE may possibly need substitutes.
 - Martha and Lisa to move forward with this, will try to set something up before next meeting.
 - At last meeting mentioned setting up K-8 curriculum, but there were no teacher volunteers. Also discussed creating a card deck curriculum, however development of new material may need to go through history and research committee. Will add to next meeting agenda.
- VI. Library Conference presentation**
 - Presentation is set for May 20. Originally was supposed to start with 250th video, but idea was shut down. Committee still feels value in there being an introduction into why 250th matters, and the history behind it.

VII. New Business

Re-visit GIV discussion

- Committee had recommended this and brought to full commission last December, Phil gave full presentation but there was not enough response to proceed.
- Some worried that only people who are tuned in will know what 250th is doing. Raised question of how to make this equitable to all students.
- Lisa mentioned involvement in VT Art Education Association's Youth Art Month. Would reach wider youth audience (K-12), 250th could be possible monthly theme.
- Committee will follow up on repackaging proposal and bring back to commission again.

Grade band/theme crosswalk

- Martha shared prepared document of potential connections of grade band themes with American revolution curriculum. Will share with everyone to fill in. Could have partners from VT History Museum help add information as well.
- Rich suggested NY state ed department pre made lesson plans could be helpful.

Rich shared that Fort Ticonderoga will be holding a web conference for NY state council on Tuesday 4/23 regarding 250th, open to teachers anywhere. Fort Ticonderoga also plans on having monthly four-hour mini teacher institutes prior to well-known historic events. For example, in April 2025 there will be an event on the Capture of Fort Ticonderoga. Funding will ensure that these events will be free for educators.

VIII. Adjourn

Next Meeting: May 13, 2024

Future Agenda

- Meeting with curriculum directors/ craft introductory letter to Jeff Francis
 - Phil will draft letter, provide in advance before next meeting, should cover both Francis and McGraith. Everyone will provide feedback at next meeting.
- Reach out to Mike McGraith for VPA conference in August
- Homeschool resource conversation