

Agenda
Vermont 250th Anniversary Commission
Research and Historical Committee
March 20, 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
 - i. Angie Grove
 - ii. Chris Sabick
 - iii. Barbe Giffin
 - b. Approved minutes by consensus
- II. Public comment – N/A
- III. Logo/branding updates
 - a. Susan shared the two options that the full Commission will be voting on. The committee had a good discussion about the logos, and shared that they wished it was clearer about what the anniversary was (1776-2026) and used more explicit colors that connected to the broader national anniversary (red, white, and blue). There was some concern that these logos would increase confusion about what the anniversary is. Susan shared that the logo would be a starting point for the website and visual outreach.
- IV. Funding request: review funding recommendations drafted at the last meeting:
 - a. *Vermont's 250th 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 250th 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).*
 - 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*
 - c. The Committee's priority for funding is option "A"
 - d. **Susan** will share these options with Laura for feedback
- V. Roadside Markers

- a. We've been tasked with coming 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. Angie noted that there are few roadside markers with Indigenous or Abenaki connections and suggested that there is an opportunity to reach out to the Abenaki community and that Jess Robison would have good suggestions for locations.
- c. Everyone noted a lack of stories and a desire to increase markers about women, Black Vermonters, and Indigenous people.
- d. New roadside marker ideas:
 - i. Fanny Allen Sr. (either at gravesite or Westminster Massacre site)
 - 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
 - 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 Westminster, Fanny Allen Sr's stepfather, set the Bounty for Seth Warner, Remember Baker, Ethan Allen- location would be site of his house Westminster, working with Westminster Historical Society)
 - xiii. Ann Story at her gravesite

VI. Discussion on next steps for the committee:

- a. What's next with presentation:
 - i. Update 250th presentation with new Vermont 250 logo and info on website
 - ii. Host a training session (webinar) on what is the 250th (using the presentation and Q&A session)- "Getting Ready for the 250th"
 - iii. Deliver/host 250th presentation at locations around the state
- b. Ongoing responsibilities:
 - i. Respond to the needs of the Commission and review things that are created by the Commission (ex: website content)
 - ii. Review submitted events as needed (lead reviewer will be the Commission contractor, she will come to this Committee with any questions or request for review)

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

VIII. Confirm next meeting date: Wednesday April 17 3-4pm