

Minutes
Vermont 250th Anniversary Commission
School and Teacher Outreach Committee
August 12, 2024 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Virtual Meeting Only - Microsoft Teams

Members present: Israel Provoncha (Chair), Martha Deiss (Vice-Chair), Rich Strum, Meg Mallory, Elsa Gilbertson, Phil Holland, Jonah Spivak, Chris Sheehan.

Members absent: None.

Others present: Megan Albert (250th Commission administrator), Rachael Ledwidge.

I. Welcome and Introductions

Megan Albert introduced herself as a 250th Commission Administrator who will be present at all committee meetings. Rachael Ledwidge introduced herself as content specialist in math with AOE, but is in this meeting as a member of the public.

II. Changes to Agenda

Martha asked if there were any changes to the agenda. There were none.

III. Approval of June Minutes

Rich Strum made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2024 meeting. Elsa seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

IV. Public Comment

Martha asked if there was any public comment. There was none.

V. Old Business

- [Framework of Resources](#)

Martha mentioned more focus on the framework of resources. If we want to put something together for VTCLA, this would be a great start. Elsa Gilbertson mentioned the program for Mt. Independence is now up on their website. Meg Mallory said she will have availability to help with the Vermont Historical Society components and were recipients of the grant for the “put your history on the map” contest.

- VTCLA- communication/ fall presentation

Martha asked if there were any committee members that would like to craft a monthly blog post. Jonah will confirm whether we would share monthly or as we create content, but would serve as promotion to send content for October before the Fall presentation. He will also create a Doodlepoll for a meeting with them and to confirm placement on the agenda for the presentation.

- VASS

Martha suggests for the committee to table for this. Elsa agreed it is a good idea. Jonah agreed on tabling and suggested a presentation. Meg asked what would be presented. She asked if it would be best to wait until next year when there is more to present. Martha will reach out to confirm who is able to attend.

VI. New Business

- Collaboration/Partnerships

Martha: Izzy and I crafted three proposals for a student-made video K-12 CTE program and brought Vermont Public into the collaboration. They responded asking why only five centers were chosen. It was relayed it was to do to equity and funding.

Jonah: There is a potential for more funding if there are more grant opportunities available and how many schools would participate. Elsa asked if there was a criteria involved in the selection process.

Martha: Potential partnership with Newsela who would create a 250th nationwide and state-specific curriculum using primary sources.

Phil Holland: According to their agenda, the Research and Historical committee plans to do a webinar of some sort. We haven't heard about this from them yet.

Megan Albert: The plan for the website is to have a bare bones version ready by August 16th, then review with Laura before we can launch it. It will include all resources, news column, commissioners list, involvement in committees, educational resources, a calendar and more. The video will also be posted when it is available.

Rich Strum: The next collaborative teacher webinar is coming up on October 1st at 6:30 PM Ticonderoga Tuesdays on Benedict Arnold and the American Revolution on the northern frontier. We're going to do a mini virtual institute for educators on the capture of Fort Ticonderoga on September 26 10am-2pm.

Jonah: There will also be three days regional events surrounding the meeting of Ed Mott and Ethan Allen.

Martha asked about a calendar for the 250th events. Megan reiterated that there will be a calendar for all Vermont 250th events endorsed by the Commission. They should be sent via email for their review. She's also working to save a list of all previously posted events.

VI. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:51pm

Next Meeting: September 9, 2024