

Draft Minutes
Vermont 250th Anniversary Commission
Executive Committee Meeting
October 15th, 2024
1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
Microsoft Teams meeting

Members Present: Laura Trieschmann, Jim Brangan, Susan Evans McClure, John Krueger, Israel Provoncha, Christopher Kaufman Ilstrup.

Members Absent: Martin Mahoney.

Staff: Megan Albert, 250th Anniversary Coordinator.

I. Welcome and Introductions

There were no new attendees.

II. Changes to the Agenda

There were no changes to the agenda.

III. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

IV. Approve July 16th, 2024 Minutes

John Krueger made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 16th, 2024 Executive Committee meeting. Laura Trieschmann seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

V. Committee Reporting

- **Admin and Financial**

Jim Brangan reported on recent the last meeting. The Vermont Covered grants through the Vermont Historical Society are underway. They awarded, I believe, 34 grants. Steve and Eileen at the Historical Society will be putting together a report on what they were able to accomplish with those \$1000 grants. We may approach the Vermont Covered Foundation for an additional 10 to \$15,000. They committed to 50,000, about 35,000 been spent. We have approached the governor's office to make a request for \$250,000 for 2026 and \$250,000 for 2027, these are this money would be distributed in grants with three signature event grants each year for \$50,000. And then there'd be local history grants \$5000 each, and regional grants for \$10,000. There's \$250,000 worth of funding underway from Champlain Valley National Heritage Partnership. And on Monday the 21st, we'll be closing the request for pre proposals. If it passes the with review team, you'll be invited to submit a larger application of full proposal.

- **Research and Historical**

Susan Evans McClure reported on the four upcoming 250th outreach webinars which are intended to start the conversation with folks who are beginning to plan their commemorations. The first one will take place on October

23rd. The hope is that the website will be live by then so we can also share the link and other resources with attendees.

- **Marketing**

Megan Albert reported on discussion at the last committee meeting. The hope is to use Shopify for print on-demand Vermont 250th swag as opposed to ordering a large amount of certain sizes with risk of them not selling. In the Admin and Financial meeting before this meeting, they had a concern about whether they print in the US. She will do more research on that before moving forward. There was also talk about using Mailchimp for email blasts and newsletters. It is on the agenda for this meeting. Christopher Kaufman Ilstrup asked what the State currently does. Laura will ask and get back to the committee.

- **Arts and Cultural Heritage**

Chris reported on the recruiting of new members for the committee. He has been working on aspects of the grant proposal. He also reported on the America250PA convening where the work they have done with art installations that Vermont could consider.

VI. Strategic Planning Review

Laura asked everyone to review and edit the strategic plan and send it to Megan before the next meeting.

VII. New Business

- **Mail Chimp**

Laura heard back from the Director of Communication. The State does use Mailchimp. Megan will follow up to see how we can move forward with this.

- **Shopify**

More research is needed on print on-demand.

- **Other**

John mentioned a 15 minute video about Lafayette 200. Laura mentioned that Megan attended a Lafayette 200 planning meeting. Susan mentioned the Smithsonian Institute American History Museum program which encourages participation of Gen Z.

VIII. Adjournment

Christopher Kaufman Ilstrup made a motion to adjourn at 1:53pm. Susan Evans McClure seconded. Motion approved unanimously.