



AMERICA 250 COMMITTEE

Minutes

Regular Monthly Meeting

October 27, 2025 @ 5:30pm

Memorial Town Hall • American Legion Meeting Room

- Call to Order and Welcome
 - 5:38pm
 - In attendance: Acting Chairperson Cheryl Poirier, Allison Lang, Secretary Christine MacGregor, Mark Terwilliger. Jim Lampos arrived during the meeting.
- Approval of September 29, 2025 Meeting Minutes
 - Motion by Mark Terwilliger
 - Second by Allison Lang
 - Unanimously in favor
- Public Comment
 - none
- National/State/Regional Efforts
 - Florence Griswold Museum: Reaching out to them to explore displaying their artifacts including Lafayette's Silver, Bicentennial Quilt.
 - State A250 Meeting is tomorrow, Cheryl will update at next meeting.
 - CT Commission is creating an A250 travelling exhibit. Allie Lang will look into this and see if it would be something for the library to display
- Blue Star Memorial Program: Duck River Garden Club
 - Motion by Mark Terwilliger to move discussion of this topic to right before the discussion on the fiscal year budget.
 - Second by Allison Lang
 - Unanimously in favor
- Photo Contest
 - A motion was made by Mark Terwilliger to move discussion of this topic to later in the meeting.
 - Second by Christine MacGregor
 - Unanimously in favor



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- Civic Engagement in Town Government
 - Jim Lampos arrived during this discussion.
 - Mark suggested creating a “Citizen’s Guide to Town Government.” Mark will build a table of contents or outline by our January meeting.
 - This will help citizens understand how our town government works and how citizens can be involved
 - Jim mentioned that this might be something for the Selectmen to support production of rather than the committee
- Updates
 - Blog Articles
 - October - Nehantics and the Revolution
 - Upcoming - Steven Johnson and the Stamp Act
 - Lectures and Education
 - Native Stonework (Historical Society)
 - History of the Railroads (library)
 - Summer 2026 Picnic
 - 4 people attended the first subcommittee discussion
 - Town Woods is possible, need to submit a request form
 - Will be the week before or after July 4th
 - Keepsake Booklet
 - What’s in it?
 - Events
 - List of Revolutionary War veterans
 - Town history
 - Artwork
 - Photo contest winners
 - We need price quotes from printers
 - Other Activities and Efforts
 - Land Acknowledgement
 - Christine is working with members of the Nehantic tribe to write something for the keepsake book
 - Commemorating RW Veterans
 - White Oak Saplings. Cheryl to reach out to the Tree Commission



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- Photo Contest
 - Potential Categories for Photo Contest entries would include:
 - Embracing the historic nature of our town
 - Then and Now (comparing the same spot over time)
 - The community or people of OL
 - Junior Category - What does OL mean to you?
 - Possible Thematic Titles
 - A Celebration of OL
 - Our Town - Our Story
 - Need rules and overview for public announcement
 - Christine will work on this for our next meeting
 - Winners
 - Display the photos at the town picnic
 - Print them in the keepsake book
- Blue Star Memorial Program: Duck River Garden Club
 - Cheryl reporting for Maryellen Basham of the DRGC who could not attend the meeting. The DRGC is pursuing the Blue Star/Gold Star Memorial plaques for Old Lyme. The primary question at this point is an appropriate place for the memorial markers to be placed. The committee discussed several possibilities to be relayed to Maryellen. The DRGC is interested in this being part of the America 250 celebrations.
- Fiscal Year 2026-2027 Budget
 - The Committee will need to submit a budget request that would meet the needs of producing the keepsake booklet, townwide picnic, and several other possible activities.
 - A motion was made by Jim Lampos to request in November \$25,000 for the 26/27 fiscal year, with the understanding that we will fine hone that number as our plans are solidified and we have quotes in from printers and other vendors.
 - Second by Christine MacGregor
 - Unanimously all in favor
- New and Other Business
 - We will create a Google Drive to organize our documents, calendar/timeline and information for the committee. Allie will work with Cheryl to set up.
- Adjournment
 - Motion by Mark Terwilliger
 - Second by Jim Lampos
 - Unanimously all in favor
 - Adjourn at 7:15pm

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