

Minutes
America's 250th Anniversary Committee
Wednesday, May 29, 2024, at 3:30pm in the Town Clerk's Office

Attendance: Jim Dassatti, Kathleen Nutter, Todd Stewart, Therese Lounsbury

The meeting was called to order at 3:30pm for a brainstorming session for how the town might celebrate local & state history along with the lead up and celebration of the Semiquincentennial (sem-ee quin centennial). See additional information from Jim.

Ideas for sharing Wilmington & Vermont history with the advent of America's 250th anniversary:

Broad Sheets

Flag swap

July 4th itself is a Chamber Event

Original looking copies of the Declaration of Independence (parchment copies) (Big one for bay window)

Reading of the Declaration of Independence

Lecturers / Musical events

Vermont Humanities offering anything?

Parade? Fife & Drum? (start weekend before?) July 4, 2026, is a Saturday (invites need to be soon!)

Stand-up banners (see separate sheet) – display in Memorial Hall, with life beyond

Re-publish old books (Battle of Bennington, Ethan Allen, HTW RR, Fort Ticonderoga) (in library)

Town Historical Tour – more pamphlets needed for self-guided tour?

Old Photos in Memorial Hall

Founding of Wilmington

Exhibits – library, Memorial Hall, Historical Society, schools

Engage travelling exhibits

Color Walk – red, white, blue

Veterans Memorial Park

Old Postcards at Historical Society (or other exhibit that can be catalogued and preserved of our local history)

Women of Wilmington (i.e. Elswyth Thane pen name for Helen Ricker Beebe)

Patents from Wilmington residents

Commemorative t-shirt

Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) talk

Get business and restaurant tie-in much like Blueberry Fest (i.e. Ethan Allen Burger, etc.)

Wilmington Commemorative Coin

Encourage businesses to decorate (76 days leading up means April 19 start) – have People's Choice Awards?

What does Windham County Historical in Newfane have on Wilmington?

Get schools involved

Is there an Eagle Scout project potential?

Collaborate with Wilmington Works for the Village Strolls

Next meeting: Wednesday, June 5 at 10:30am at the Town Clerk's Office to create a timeline.

Respectfully submitted by Therese Lounsbury 5/29/2024