

Minutes of Vermont 250 on Wednesday, March 12, 2025

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

Call to order at 10:30am in the Town Clerk's Office

Therese asked for changes to the minutes of February 19, 2025, and hearing none declared the minutes approved.

Commemorative Coin: The group reviewed the medal and historical pamphlet from the Bicentennial. The historical information could be incorporated into the Catamount Chronicles. This led to a discussion of the commemorative coin. Discussed the town's color logo on one side and the Semiquincentennial on the other. The 1.5" diameter at a quantity of 3,000 would be \$2.91 each. Could sell for \$8 each or 3 for \$20. Possibility of velvet bags at .25 each or coin capsules at .60 each. The PVC envelope is free. Polished nickel, gold, copper, brass, black nickel – the group's choice was gold. Will take 3-3 ½ weeks. Ideas for design: "National Semiquincentennial" / 1776-2026 / Betsy Ross Flag / rope edge / "United States of America" / "250th Anniversary" / 1776 flag & current flag / do not use Olde English font / soft enamel or hard enamel?

T-Shirts:

Save the Cambridge Flag, Bennington Flag, First Navy Jack, First Stars & Stripes, Ft McHenry Flag for t-shirt designs. Check with Old Home Week or Bicentennial Committee records for quantities and sizes sold. Possible vendor: Crane Mountain Creations 802-579-6766 / cranemtncreations@gmail.com

Magnets & Stickers:

Therese shared magnets and stickers from Vermont 250.

Explore Different Meeting Day:

The group felt they could meet on Fridays instead of Wednesdays, starting with the next meeting.

Review Calendar:

Jim can start Catamount Chronicle at the end of this month. He can do his "Road to Revolution" programs at any point. He can also provide items for the bay windows of the town offices. Therese to create "Road to Revolution" heading or banner for bay window. Need speaking engagements.

Committee Reports:

Todd reported that he has been digitizing photos for the Historical Society of Wilmington. He found an old photo (c.1890) perhaps from the first Old Home Week Reunion of a brass band. There is great potential here for local images for the banners.

Jim said that the National Park Services posters (qty 6) can be ordered. The concern is that the font is small on such a big poster and there is a need to increase that. The installation of the posters and live re-enactors for Crafts Inn lawn was approved for 1% money. Jim will work with the Zoning Office regarding any permit needed. Catamount Chronicle should be sent to schools for History/Social Studies classes. Jim will go about town on Saturdays with the Chronicle. LHA is looking to do a dinner in Dover with lectures to recruit volunteers, potentially on June 14 – Dover does not have a designated committee for the 250th.

Kathleen shared copies of the Guy Hawkins Historical Address (1950) that she was able to purchase from the Historical Society of Wilmington. This can be used as a resource. Kathleen also presented at an all-school assembly the essay/art competition under "America 250" and shared that while this was a national competition, we would like to include entries into our multiple exhibits for our local celebrations. As for speakers, she found that Kevin Graffagnino has a 2024 book – Ira Allen biography. Still chasing potential speakers.

Committee Priorities:

Website presence, coin, t-shirts, banners, display cases, calendar of events, budget, report to Vermont 250, 1% application

Next Meeting: Friday, March 28, 2025, at 10:30am at Town Clerk's Office

Respectfully submitted by Therese Lounsbury 3/12/2025