

## Minutes of Vermont 250 on Friday, April 11, 2025

Attendance: Kathleen Nutter, Jim Dassatti, Todd Stewart, Jessica Roberts, Therese Lounsbury  
Call to order in the Town Clerk's Office at 10:30am.

Agenda additions: small display needs for Historical Society, and Lift and Read idea

Therese asked for changes to the minutes of March 28, 2025, and hearing none declared the minutes approved.

**Budget & 1% Request:** Therese working on for Selectboard meeting in May. Pass along any budgeting needs for items being worked on. Village Stroll commitment requested for 2026 – not sure budgeting needs yet. Need to budget advertising money, author events, talks, music, color walk, supplies, coins, t-shirts, creation of "Then & Now" book.

**Website Postings & QR Code:** Keep sharing content for the website. Jessica showed a "gallery" option that she used on the Zoning section of the Town of Wilmington website. The photos/items can scroll across the window. Therese can check with Jessica Archambault.

### **Banner Development:**

Jim has been working on the layout for the banners. Therese shared the enlargements requested by Jim. A rough layout will allow us to share a design template with Tamara Bolognani for the graphic design work.

### **Small Display – Historical Society:**

Kathleen & Todd saw the space for the installation of a display for the Vermont 250<sup>th</sup>. Need to create a foam core poster on an easel to promote the events/activities/website. It would be good to promote the self-guided tours. The building will be open on Sundays from 1-3pm, starting in July.

### **Committee Reports:**

Todd shared coin design ideas. Need to secure the use of the town logo. Discussion of old buildings in town, and possible recognizable view for the coin design? Also working on the idea of a "Then & Now" photo book to publish and sell. Todd and Jessica will collaborate on this project. Photos credited as Crosier need to be double checked for copyright use. Todd shared his storyboard for "Food the Colonists Ate" as something for our displays. He also shared some history about Joseph Courtemanche.

Jessica will share the booklet with the old proposal to move the center of town out to Castle Hill. There was research there regarding buildings that were moved from the original town common on Lisle Hill.

Jim shifted the heading on Catamount Chronicles to add the QR Code. Reviewed the posters ordered from the government store. Was unable to find the Philadelphia one. Need to see if it is possible to enlarge the areas with small print or create a QR Code for people to be able to better read it? Completing a rough draft of banner. Suggested that we may be able to book the Hills Band for \$1,000 for a couple dates within the 76 days of 2026. Jim also shared that he received some mail regarding the purchase of coinage reproductions from the colonial period as a potential display item.

Kathleen contacted Kevin Graffagnino (Ira Allen biography). They selected the date of July 24, 2025, at 7:00pm at OSEC for a book talk. She received a photo and book jacket for promotional materials.

Honorary Fee of \$0-500. We need to advertise and contact all Book Clubs & libraries. The author will bring books to sell unless the local book store wants to sell them. Kathleen will check with Bartleby's Books to see if they would like to be involved. Is there a Vermont Humanities Grant for this or other items? Jim has some experience with this. Kathleen to meet again with Twin Valley Middle/High School to see what they have for the America's 250 submissions. The school will share electronically for their April 16 deadline, so we would be able to use them for our local displays.

Therese will write Charlie Foster for old photos of the inn or of Joseph Courtemanche to match with Todd's information; create letter to businesses/restaurants to promote naming items/activities for the 250<sup>th</sup>; look up high school graduation date for 2026; get Jim on the calendar for "Road to the Revolution talks, etc.; contact Katie Boyd of Wings to encourage a stars & stripes theater production from the kids in the summer of 2026 as well as the Deerfield Valley Players.

***Other Ideas:*** game of arranging the old buildings of town; field days; interactive process of "Lift & Read" within our displays – see photo of individual and must lift it to read about them.

Adjourned at 12:00pm.

**Next Meeting: Friday, April 25, 2025, at 10:30am at Town Clerk's Office**

*Respectfully submitted by Therese Lounsbury 4/11/2025*