

**America 250 Missouri Commission**  
**Monday, April 21, 2025 - 12:00 noon**  
**Truman Building, Room 850**

The meeting was called to order at 12:01 p.m. by Chair Renee Pace and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States was led by Pat Thomas. Chair Pace called the roll, with members Esther Rosner, Pat Thomas and Dean Van Schoiack being present. (Beth Pike was able to join at 1:00 p.m.)

Chair Pace asked for an adoption of the agenda, it was approved by acclamation.

Secretary Rosner read the minutes from the March 10<sup>th</sup> meeting; Rep. Dean Van Schoiack moved to approve the minutes.

Chair Pace opened the meeting for public comments: Andy McKean from St. Charles County America 250 presented his concerns and asked that the committee include both student education and public education initiatives in the planning as well as community events through the state. He encouraged the committee to include Representatives and Senators to facilitate community participation.

### **Reports**

- A. Collaboration with Semiquincentennial Commission: Chair Pace had communicated with Brittany Baldwin, America 250 Senior Policy Advisor at the National Level and encouraged a focus on our country's Charters of Freedom. Moving forward, Zoom meetings were encouraged to collaborate as we flesh out our programs.
- B. Website Development – The team will include links to appropriate state departments on the pages. After reviewing the Kansas website, it was suggested to collect stories, including logistics and topography differences from 1775 to today. A scalable logo incorporating red, white, and blue; the Missouri outline and state themes is under development. A statement of work is needed and will be provided to move forward with meeting the June 1<sup>st</sup> website approval date. The theme: "Show-Me America 250!"
- C. Educational Opportunities – Howard Fisk notes from the prior meeting were provided and discussed; the team will promote educational tools currently in use: essays and poster contests with a focus on the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Pat Thomas stated that during Department Liaison meetings the need to emphasize 'Celebration of Birth' for our Nation was paramount.

Traveling Trunks have been a good educational tool, they contain landscape, topography, nature and animals of Missouri. We will work with Margie Vandeven, Education Branch Chief at Missouri Department of Conservation to get these in schools.

Utilizing the existing educational tools with the addition of the Department of Natural Resources and State Parks, Tourism Commission there will be a focus to incorporate educational scavenger Hunts.

- D. Community Engagement: The thought is to use existing vendors / events and co-op with upcoming events: Big Cedar has several events, Kansas City will be hosting the FIFA world cup, and Route 66 Centennial is on the horizon. Contact the St. Louis Zoo, Children's Museum and other venues.
- D. State Departments: It was agreed that working with existing departments would be the most effective method of moving forward, Tourism for media and using their resource connections.

#### I. New Business

- A. Logo/Slogan/Motto – brief discussion, establish sub-group (2-3) for detail work
  - 1. The design should be Red, White, and Blue with the State outline. Alex Curchin will 'fine tune the design'.
- B. Formation of Budget Sub-group – Dean Van Schoiack will spearhead this group to research budget allocation.
- C. Formation of Standing Rules Sub-group – Agenda items will be provided each meeting.
- D. Mural proposal – Aron Horrell and Barb Wren from Cape Girardeau have offered to provide an 8'x12' foot mural using U.S. Symbols and have it finished to display at the State Fair, cost is being investigated
- E. Focus Group work time
  - A. Revisit brainstorming
  - B. Determine course of action/programming/funding needs
  - C. Consider information for website

Meeting adjourned at 1:29 p.m. with the next meeting being offered both in-person and via Webex.

#### Announcements

**Next Meeting Date:** May 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

Date for sending Meeting Reminder, Agenda, and April Minutes: \_\_\_May 12th\_\_\_\_\_

#### Adjournment