

America 250 Missouri Commission
Wednesday, July 9, 2025

The July 9th meeting was held in the Truman Building, Room 850 and called to order by Chair Renee Pace at 10:00 a.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag was led by Alex Curchin.

Roll Call was conducted; commission members present and attending via Webex were Chair Renee Pace, Esther Rosner, Pat Thomas, Senators Mike Bernskoetter, Alex Curchin, Dr. Gary Kremer, Beth Pike, Al Voelker; Missouri staff members from various departments attending were Dana Lueke, Hanna Swann, Hunter Mairet, Susan German, Tyra Janke, TJ Grove, Wanda Seeney, Rachel Dunn, Dean Linneman, Aly Gatwood, John Doughan, Dan Taylor, Taylor Hagenhoff, Amanda Bell. Aly Gatwood and Christy Miller

Members of the public present were Andy McKean from St. Charles County, Carin Huffman Grinch from Columbia, and Jim Oldebeken from Clay County.

Pat Thomas made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Beth Pike.

The June 9 meeting minutes will be edited to add Beth Pike attending. The minutes were approved with that correction.

Public Comments: Andy McKean with America 250 Saint Charles invited members to view their website and share events across the state for cross posting and maximum visibility. He also reminded members about the Constitution booklets that were available from *Liberty Lives Forever*.

Carin Huffman Grinch discussed the Kinder Institute and upcoming projects including the Missouri Civics Bee and the 'Commemorating America's 250th' ongoing projects that the Institute aided by undergraduate research team is undertaking, including archived interviews.

Jim Oldebeken discussed outreach to cities and counties surrounding Clay County and Gladstone and sharing information on websites.

A reminder was given about the Washington D.C. workshop which Chair Pace plans to attend. The Logo license agreement was reviewed, having been reviewed by the office of Administration, Pat Thomas made a motion to approve the License Agreement, and the motion was seconded by Beth Pike.

The Flags Across Missouri, part of the Patriotic Communities project was discussed and MO Commission flags will be provided to the Representatives and/or Senators to distribute to districts with a cover letter.

A Naturalization Ceremony is planned for July 4, 2026, and the new citizens will be provided with a special letter to acknowledge having been naturalized in the 250th anniversary year.

A listing of historic dishes and their significance was provided by Alex Curchin.

Proposals: The Commission approved the proposal for promotional support of the Missouri Civics Bee, and approved the proposal to provide financial support for copies of the US Constitution for

regional contest participants in the National History Day in Missouri (NHDMO) administered by the State Historical Society of Missouri.

Updates: The Commission heard updates regarding the following projects: Liberty Leaves – the modifications are being investigated; Faces of Freedom – will be ready for use at the State Fair; and the mural – anticipated completion date in September.

Next Meeting Date: **Monday, August 4, 2025** at 10:00am

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Submitted by Esther Rosner