

## **America 250 Missouri Commission Minutes**

### **Monday, August 4, 2025**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Renee Pace at 10:00 a.m. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America was led by Beth Pike.

Roll Call was taken with Commission members present being Renee Pace, Pat Thomas, Beth Pike, Dr. Gary Kremer, Dr. Brad Frazier, Esther Rosner and via Webex: Senator Mike Bernskoetter, Doug Clemens, Alex Curchin, J. Howard Fisk, and Al Voelker

MO Employees from departments assisting were Anna Littrell, Hannah Swann, TJ Craven, Trinity Crouch, John Dougan, Tiffany Patterson, Taylor Hagenhoff, Tyler Janke, Susan German, Greg Wood and Pam Harlan

Public attendees were Andy McKean, Karen McKean, and Peggy Goodfriend

Beth Parks made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented. Motion was seconded and approved.

Pat Thomas made a motion to approve the Minutes of the July 9, 2025 meeting, as emailed to commission.

**Public Comments:** Andrew McKean presented upcoming events in St. Charles including booths at the Festival of Little Hills, wine tasting and School Districts contacted. He mentioned a challenge coin fundraiser and asked that members follow his website for additional information which he will also share on the Show-Me America 250 website. Reports and Updates

- A. Chair Report: Chair Renee Pace provided information on her Washington D.C. trip and the America 250 initiatives and those coming to Missouri. She shared photos of Cabinet Members that she met during evening events and the visit to the Library of Congress.
- B. State Fair Launch – Vice Chair Pat Thomas discuss the State Fair Launch and the lineup for the evening parade. The plans were to set up on Wednesday, the 4'x8' cutouts (2 sets) have been laminated with a QR code for attendees to upload their photos to the Commission website.

She provided sample T-shirts, window clings, and two versions of stickers for Fair attendees to promote Show-Me America 250.

There are six 'fan flags' with the logo for display at the State Fair.

#### **I. New Business**

##### **A. Approval and Updates of Project Proposals**

- a. **Educate:** Al Voelker discussed ongoing projects to include art and music projects.
- b. **Engage:** Beth Pike introduced Peggy Goodfriend to discuss the "Our Missouri Podcast" series; Dr. Gary Kremer made a motion to endorse and become a promotional sponsor; the motion was seconded by Al Voelker.

Podcast promotional material was provided to review. Pat Thomas made a motion to table the proposal for two weeks allowing members a chance to review the material

pending a budget review; this motion was seconded by Beth Pike. A Webex meeting will be held.

“America’s Potluck” was discussed with Pat Thomas making a motion to be a promoting partner and Alex Curchin seconded the motion.

“Two Lights for Tomorrow” was presented to be held July 3<sup>rd</sup> 2026; Beth Pike made a motion to provide promotional support; the motion was seconded by Dr. Brad Frazier.

Pat Thomas said the MO Corn and MO Soybean Associations would like to support the Show-Me America 250 initiatives. They would be able to donate 7500 hand fans for patrons at the State Fair. Dr. Gary Kremer moved to accept this sponsorship with Dr. Brad Frazier, seconding the motion.

Pat Thomas discussed providing college and high school mascots with “Show-Me America 250” logo shirts, these can be ordered in extra large and respective State Representatives and Senators would be tasked with delivering to schools in their Districts.

TJ Craven discussed the eagles in the World Bird Sanctuary ([education@worldbirdsanctuary.org](mailto:education@worldbirdsanctuary.org)) there is an eagle at Eureka named ‘Patriot’ and the suggestion was to name the eagle on the Show-Me America 250 shirt ‘Patriot’.

A potential tree planting date was discussed with a suggested tie-in to relevant Patriotic Spring or Fall dates (March 17, 1776 or a Fall date being October 19<sup>th</sup>, 1787 – Cornwallis’ surrender at Yorktown.)

The website was discussed with a motion by Pat Thomas and seconded by Al Voelker to push the Taskforce 250 link to the Show-Me America 250 website.

### **c. Celebrate**

**Announcements:** Beth Pike invited all members to attend the inaugural “Missouri Civics Bee” on Wednesday, August 6<sup>th</sup> at the State Historical Society of Missouri.

The meeting was adjourned with a follow up Webex meeting scheduled for August 18 to discuss the table items.

**Next Meeting Date:** Monday, September 8, 2025, 10:00am

**Adjournment:** The Meeting was adjourned at 11:09 a.m.

Please mark your calendars for further meeting dates: October 13, November 10, and December 15<sup>th</sup>.

Respectfully submitted,

Esther Rosner