

Bristol 250th Commission [APPROVED] Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, 19 August 2025
Burnside Building
400 Hope Street, Bristol, RI 02809

Meeting called to order at 5:35 PM

Pledge of Allegiance recited

Roll Call

- Present: Alayne White, Bill Leary, Michael Riley, Andrea Rounds, Craig Evens, Lisa Newcity, Warren Rensehausen, Sarah Griffin
- Regrets: Carol Gafford, Paul Vollaro, Catherine Zipf, Amanda Marsilli

Approval of Minutes

- 15 July 2025 meeting minutes – motion to approve Mike, second Andrea, all in favor, motion carried

Discussion of Topics

Update on progress from each member

- Alayne:

Made notes on events; need firm dates

- Lisa:

State Street Fair; we will have a booth (need punch list), need brochures (make 500?, need to be on the agenda to spend money), recipe section for booth, encourage Facebook page, display 250 flag Harbor Festival coordinate with Amanda

September 17 Constitution Day with RWU School of Justice Studies / Law School

"Bristol Celebrates 250" tag on events

Law Day in May

RWU Founder's Day in February

- Mike:

Presented 2 version of banners for light poles, need 24-36 (48"x24", about \$100 each), put in request to Town in September, could take out of separate fund, could we auction or sell after?, can businesses sponsor?, Mike to provide quote to Alayne

Vote to ask Town Council for money for banners – motion Andrea, Andrea second, all in favor, motion carried

- Bill:

Working on pen pals, sister cities, Bristol Town Flag (contact Mary Parella)

- Sarah:

Story Walkabouts are confirmed for whole month of May; April decorate a kite and education on Ben Franklin; revolution themed Halloween for kids; dress up Thanksgiving; American Girl Doll read aloud (need date)

"250 Photo"

- Andrea:

Presented Matt Hayes's "250 Years of Making It in Bristol" showcasing industry/manufacturing in Bristol

- Craig:

High School / Middle School – Capstone, each month a lecture (historical, involve students), "Bristol Works-Bristol Serves", rework to 4 events, students are contributors town is audience (could audience be students?)

Bristol Games – October (every other month for 8 months)

Bristol Brews – 3, October / January / April

Garden Club – committee formed for Mrs. Perry's Garden

- Warren:

Liberty Tree plant in May, application submitted, location first choice is Independence Park, second is the common (checked with Tree Warden)

- Christine:

Scavenger Hunt?

"What Do You Know about the Revolution?" at booths, index cards, provide outline with dates for next meeting

Round Table Discussion

Alayne met with Steve Contente, "250 will definitely happen."

Check State website

Explore Bristol link to 250 Facebook

Press Release (Mike) when website is done

Alayne to check with Mary and Melissa regarding a bank account

Book of front pages of every July 4th Phoenix

State grant – \$1000 / \$3000 / \$ 5000, first round by October 31st

Swag Update

- Challenge coin – we will not pursue
- Flag (3 x 5) – we will pre-sell; create flag interest form and load to website
- Two prints?
- Create rendering for ornaments

Motion to adjourn Andrea, second Mike, all in favor, motion carried; meeting adjourned 7:16 PM