

Bristol 250th Commission [Amended Approved] Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, 11 February 2026
Bristol Historical and Preservation Society
48 Court Street, Bristol, RI 02809

Meeting called to order at 5:34 PM

Pledge of Allegiance recited

Roll Call

- Present: Christine Hughes, Alayne White, Bill Leary, Andrea Rounds, Craig Evans, Lisa Newcity, Sarah Griffin, Carol Gafford, Catherine Zipf
- Regrets: Michael Riley, Warren Rensehausen, Matt Hayes, Paul Vollaro, Amanda Marsilli
- Guests: Steve Contente, Town Administrator; Members of the Bristol 4th of July Committee – John Daniels, Ana Motta, Tammy Mojkowski, Patti Nenna, Donna Chabot, Dee Oliveria

Approval of Minutes

- Andrea made a motion to approve the 20 January 2026 minutes, seconded by Craig, all were in favor; motion carried

Introduction of Committee Members to guests

Discussion of Topics

- 4th of July Parade
 - Develop a B250 plan for the parade; rather than a “float” use B250 flags as more impactful; can we use a large American flag to start the parade, this presents obstacles (requires adults, logistics); can use smaller historical flags (e.g. Bennington, Betsy Ross) to scatter throughout the parade; we need a banner – typical standard flags are 3’x5’ and require a pole and clips; small 12” flags are possible; could we ask for high school students looking for service hours to carry flags; can we purchase a B250 flag to give to the 4th Committee as “symbolic”; 4th Committee to reach out to military to see if it’s possible for them to carry large flag; obtain a list of historic / American flags; deadline is 01 May for a float or flatbed (to decorate with flags – 4th Committee mentioned that they may have flags/hardware in storage and will check)
- 4th Committee website
 - B250 is not on the 4th website but committee members said this was possible
- Banners
 - 4th Committee has a “250-241” logo – can we stagger B250 and 250-241 logos on banners; banner measurements are 30”x60” and cost \$108 ea (qty 20-60) – there are 95 poles (if we want additional poles we need to supply the hardware)
- Concert series
 - The idea of a sing-along was discussed; can we sponsor a song; concerts run 21 June to 02 July

- Flag Day
 - Flag day is Sunday, 14 Jun; reading of Declaration of Independence (library); patriotic song sung by 4th & 5th graders (Christie to reach out to schools); can we present a B250 flag at the ceremony
- RI Philharmonic
 - Working with Rec Board; can't do 4th; Saturday of Labor Day weekend; will include a 15 minute fireworks display; rec dept will run; it's in the budget
- Byfield Flag
 - Can we get it back; still in the custody of Varnum armory?; display at Bristol Town Hall?; in conjunction with Declaration of Independence at BHPS?
- Town Line Markers
 - Steve Contente mentioned that he is looking into restoring the town line markers between Bristol and Warren but does not have the inscription; Bill mentioned that he has some literature that might describe the original inscription (Bill will forward)
- Funds
 - Alayne will request more funding to cover flags, banners, lawn signs, etc.
- Marketing Plan
 - A marketing plan is needed; Instagram/facebook; Christie will upload calendar on Instagram and link to Explore Bristol website
- Pen Pals
 - Christie is working on a pen pal project with Bristol and Warren schools to exchange letters with Bristol, TN

The next meeting will focus on swag and marketing strategy

Motion to adjourn was made by Christie, seconded by Sarah, all in favor, motion carried; meeting adjourned 7:14 PM