

Bristol 250th Commission [APPROVED] Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, 15 July 2025
Burnside Building
400 Hope Street, Bristol, RI 02809

Meeting called to order at 5:30 PM

Pledge of Allegiance recited

Roll Call

- Present: Bill Leary, Alayne White, Michael Rielly, Andrea Rounds, Carol Gafford, Craig Evans, Lisa Newcity, Paul Vollaro
- Regrets: Lou Cirillo, Jessica Almeida, Warren Rensehausen, Sarah Griffin, Catherine Zipf, Amanda Marsilli, Doug O’Roak

Approval of Minutes

- Amend 17 June 2025 minutes to include moving forward with ornament, print and flag pre-sell
- 17 June 2025 meeting minutes – motion to approve amended minutes Mike, Andrea second, all in favor, motion carried

Discussion of Topics

Update on progress of each member

- Craig:

Bristol Games: (Craig is going solo on this project)

Peter Lima from High School is committed to helping Craig on this project. Craig is meeting him during the week of on August 18th to discuss any high school projects that B250 could use assistance with.

Games that were historical—whist, draughts (checkers) skittles, foot races, etc. (see Craig’s list). Some might be parlor games that could be played in an historic home. Others are outdoors that could be done in the spring.

Working on a project w/ Matt and Andrea, to discuss at next meeting.

- Mike:

Facebook page: last month 234 followers (goal was 250); 5% gain; last week 11 new followers. Most popular was post on March 8th about GW coming to Bristol; 8,738 views, 95% of views were non-followers; 163 interactions. Demos show that it’s an older group.

Created Instagram page last week, which will be launched soon.

Brand Style Guide presented in folder

DAR – Sheila Conis (?) wants to do something, lectures, etc. // Maritime Center or State House. In 1976 painted fire hydrants – illegal (Paul to check)

Hoping to launch website in August – using visit Concord website as template

- Paul:

Next year fire memorial – maybe not solemn event; can we have banner or flag (2ns Sunday in June)

Flags– history of flags before 1776 – not much before 1776 Mike will write up for Facebook page – map of Bristol in burnside attic now in town hall; old flags in burnside building

Check with Warren regarding liberty tree

Games – horseshoes; ball and stick game

- Bill:

presented flag 2 sided – provide final price visit concord swag flag shop

- Andrea:

updated calendar and projects list; Imago / BAM ready to do Bristol/Warren American artists event (involve high school art students)

- Lisa:

Black Ships and State Street fare – tent or booth; flag preorder? Raffle? Will make a list of things needed for tent. Added to working group at RWU list.

- Carol:

Cemeteries – Candlelight tour in cemetery (Dighton) biography of Rev War soldiers – Alayne food for cemeteries / funeral cookies / deserts; history of cooking; recipe cards; O'Brien wants to give a talk on rum, set of cards made each month for different drinks, updated old drinks, special 250 rum; 4th committee new leadership special division 250 float, 250 category for photo contest; old recipes modernized (restaurants)

- Amanda (via email):

Andrea – provided a guide for “partner language” (to media kit?); Amanda also provided language for partners; Alayne will merge send to Mike

- Alayne:

Mary Parella, banners on the poles – can businesses sponsor – how many banners 120; every 3rd or 5th; Mike to generate rendering of banner; agree we need a float; Bristol bike path 250 miles (walk, run, bike etc.) potential event provide certificate to those that complete; RI Philharmonic spoke to Joe Parella, money in Hazen White will available; waiting for someone from Philharmonic regarding scheduling; need date & location in process after the 4th

- Misc.

- Alayne to find out about B250 bank account
- Presell items to Alayne to put on website

Motion to Adjourn made by Mike; second Carol; all in favor, motion carried; meeting adjourned 7:04 PM