

Pursuant to a notice duly filed with the Town Clerk of Concord, a meeting of the Concord 2025 Executive Committee was held in the Trustees Room of the Concord Free Public Library, 129 Main Street, on July 14, 2022.

Members Present: John Arena III, Gary Clayton, Di Clymer, Holly Cratsley, Henry Dane, Richard Loughlin, Diane Proctor and Polly Reeve . Members Not Present: Tish Hopkins and David Wood

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM. – A quorum being present.

1. Administrative & Committee Updates

- a) Minutes from the June 23, 2022 meeting were reviewed and approved by unanimous vote.
- b) Henry presented a contact list for nominated subcommittee members to be confirmed by the Committee and submitted to the Town Clerk for formal appointment.
- c) Laurie Austin & Donna McIntosh's contact info is available to committee members for scheduling future subcommittee meetings and also offer assistance finding suitable meeting venues in accordance with Open Meeting Law. Donna can also assist with the preparation of Agendas and Minutes.
- d) Joe Palumbo completed a volunteer card; John will invite him to join the Events committee. Other potential nominees for subcommittee positions were suggested and discussed.
- e) Di has planned the first meeting with the Arts, Literature & Music committee on Wed., July 20, 2022.
- f) Rick met with Town Manager Kerry Lafleur. Discussion included utilizing Special Town Meeting this October to request \$300,000 toward 250th celebrations and events, and future town meetings as needed to reach an anticipated budgetary need of \$900,000-\$1,000,000. The establishment of a Revolving Fund was discussed; while this would require Town Meeting approval, it could be placed on the Warrant for a planned Special Town Meeting in October along with the initial appropriation. Rick will follow up with the deadlines for hearings and filings in connection with the STM. There is also approximately \$35,000 in encumbered funds to access. Even if CPA funds are to be sought in connection with permanent memorial, we will have no project sufficiently advanced to file by this year's deadline.
 - i) Rick emphasized the importance of subcommittees determining preliminary budget requests, in an effort to present as much information as possible at Special Town Meeting.
 - ii) Committee further discussed obtaining state and federal funding which might be available if they were not subject to impractical conditions. Public Safety support alone will require considerable funding.

2) Subcommittee Discussion

- a) Gary presented updates on the 2025 Permanent Memorial planning following a conversation with Henry. Thoughts include honoring all who served during the Revolutionary War by means of incorporating all names on a memorial; highlighting women during the Revolutionary era who played key roles; consider one or more alternatives, e.g. using digital technology platforms to memorialize in a more creative way rather than just "another block of granite"; recognizing the history of the Wright Tavern and the Town's substantial financial commitment to preserve this structure; and utilizing land gifted to the Town in 1900 as part of the 125th anniversary celebrations for a memorial that might be designed through a competitive process, along with logos, themes, and artistic works.
- b) Holly shared a report on the Outreach & Coordination committee. Several prospect activities were presented with a design to include broad participation from all residents, places of worship, civic groups and organizations. It is vital to have a clear and accessible calendar of events and to promote scheduling where events are properly spaced out. Activities should highlight youth groups such as the Scouts, as well as local businesses.

3) Looking Ahead

- a) Committee discussed the idea of hosting an ecumenical sunrise service at the North Bridge on Easter which falls on the day after the 19th in 2025.
- b) The budget may need to include the services of a qualified individual with an IT background.
- c) Polly presented the idea of creating an interactive website for 250th activities. Further discussion will be needed to determine the correct approach and town approval.

4) Next Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 28, 2022 at 7 pm in the Trustees Room of the Library, by which time it is expected that each of the Subcommittees will have either held or scheduled its first, organizational meeting.

Notices, Agendas and Minutes should be filed with the Secretary of the Committee as well as the Town Clerk.

i) Committee agreed on a summer meeting schedule as follows:

Thursday, July 28th; Thursday, August 11th; Thursday, August 25th; Thursday, Sept. 15th

Members are requested to keep Henry updated on attendance issues that arise for the above dates to ensure a quorum is present.

5) Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted,
John Arena III

