

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 September 15, 2022.

Members Present: John Arena III, Gary Clayton, Di Clymer, Henry Dane, Tish Hopkins, Diane Proctor, Polly Reeve, Fred Ryan, David Wood.

Members Not Present: Holly Cratsley, Rick Loughlin & Robert Munro

Subcommittee Members / Guests Present: Bob Hallinan, Michael Lawson, Geoffrey Love, Nancy McJennett (attending for Holly) & Simone Monteleone

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM. – A quorum being present.

1. Administrative & Committee Updates

- a) Minutes from the August 25, 2022 meeting were approved by unanimous vote.
- b) Michael Lawson, a member of the State Commission, briefed the committee on updates including their formation of subcommittees, a special focus in planning shall be centered around diversity and inclusion, and advised committee to keep close tabs on available financial support to offset the anticipated high cost the celebrations will incur.
- c) Henry will meet with Kerry Lafleur to discuss budgetary needs and status of prospective site near Monument Square, which committee agrees is a fitting location to utilize for a lasting commemoration of the 250th events.
- d) Henry reminded committee that there is no set limit for subcommittee membership, encouraging more members to be added as we move forward.
- e) In speaking with Rick, Henry mentioned that preliminary subcommittee budget requests from David, Holly and Di will need to be submitted to the Finance Committee.

2) Looking Ahead

- a) The committee was introduced to Lt. Col. Geoffrey Love and Bob Hallinan, Mass. National Guard. Bob is serving on the Public Safety subcommittee. Geoff will be appointed as an at-large member of the Executive Committee.
 - i) Geoff provided updates on future plans for revitalizing the Concord Armory for future town use and 2025 celebrations. This may include an event featuring a nationally prominent military speaker (following conclusion of parade).
 - ii) Geoff encouraged the representation of National Guard units in the parade, and that each branch be well-represented.
- b) Committee discussed the public forum planned for November 3rd. Gary discussed part of the forum including recounts and a review of similarly planned celebrations in the town's history.
- c) Diane and Tish raised concerns over the branding of using 250th vs 2025 committee. There was no committee objection to going forward with "Concord 250". Further planning may include a public contest to illustrate a new logo and/or to compose a slogan to adopt.
- d) Tish shared that Doris Kearns Goodwin is enthusiastic to participate in the support of committee efforts. President Obama or a similar figure may be a keynote speaker candidate in large part from the connections Doris offers.

3) Concord 2025 Kickoff Event – Sunday, October 16th from 2:30 – 5 pm at The Concord Museum.

- a) Tish presented the invitation to be sent to all active subcommittee members as well as the Select Board and Town Manager. Approximately 50 are expected to attend.
- b) David will look into the process of securing a one day liquor license.
- c) Henry pointed out that "complete turnout" is critical, and that each subcommittee chair is responsible for notifying their fellow members to ensure that this effort is achieved.
- d) Structure of event will include a question & answer opportunity, rapid breakout discussions, and a time of socialization/mingling to better acquaint all members.

4) Next Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 22, 2022 at 7 pm in the Trustees Room of the Library.

5) Meeting adjourned at 8:09 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted,
John Arena III

