

250th Anniversary Celebration of the American Revolution

Tuesday, June 14, 2022

Virtual Meeting

- **Meeting Begins, Senator Kennedy chairing**
 - Roll Call (All Present except for John Peters, Paul Sacco, Tom Moreau, Leon Wilson)
 - Senator Kennedy mentions the 3 vacancies remaining on the commission
 - **Approval of Minutes from last meeting**
 - Approved with voice vote
 - **Finalization of the 2022 Meeting Dates**
 - Next meeting Tuesday September 13th and Wednesday December 14)
 - Prior to the vote, Senator Barrett asked for a discussion for about what the goal of the meetings are and if the number of meetings are sufficient, Expressed concern about accessing funds, particularly for local communities.
 - Senator Kennedy says that the plan for now is to have meetings quarterly but that it could change if needed, emphasized the importance of subcommittees. He also discussed efforts to get funding in the state budget.
 - Senator Barrett thanked Senator Kennedy for his answer.
 - Senator Kennedy asked Representative Fiola to talk about her budget amendment for funding for the 250th Commission.
 - Representative Fiola mentions the conversations regarding funding for the 250th Commission.
 - Vote on the Schedule Approved with a voice vote
- **Discussion of Subcommittee.**
 - Senator Kennedy notes there are four subcommittees proposed: Education, Marketing, Diversity & Inclusion, and Finance
 - Mike Quinlin notes that there may need to be sub- subcommittees, noting in Marketing, someone will need to reach out to the communities. Marketing within the Tourism Industry, particularly outside Massachusetts.
 - Senator Kennedy notes that would be up to that subcommittee to decide how to delegate, although all meetings will be subject to the Open Meeting Law
 - Senator Kennedy urges members to fill out survey/questionnaire about their preferences for committee assignments
 - Mike Lawson from Concord suggests that the commission do outreach to the communities about events coming up related to the 250th Commission
 - Senator Kennedy notes that he was in Concord on Patriots Day. Maybe we should have a 5th subcommittee in Outreach to handle the task of contacting communities. Notes that he wasn't familiar with the Battle of Gloucester, also emphasizes the need for geographical diversity
 - Mike Lawson notes the need for coordinating with the National Park Service
 - Representative Fiola notes that the questionnaire will be sent out again tomorrow. She also notes that Revolution 250 and Jonathan Lane have ramped up to be the

Go-To Place. Emphasizes the role of the Commission is advisory while Revolution 250 is doing a lot of the work on the ground.

- Discussion on Subcommittee closed
- **Revolution 250**
 - Jonathan Lane notes several recent events that Revolution 250 have been involved in.
 - Notes the Boston Tea Party anniversary is arriving soon with commemorations in both the US and in the UK
 - National Park recently received \$25 million for the renovation of Dorchester Heights
 - Minuteman National Park have been looking for funding, hopefully an announcement will be coming soon
 - America 250 announcement is coming soon, organization has been going through some issues, announced that the bulk of their money will be event-based.
 - The eyes of the country will turn to Massachusetts by 2025
 - Discussion with Boston and the Boston Pops about July 4, 2026, through coordination with America 250
 - There will be an upcoming conference in July cohosted by Suffolk and Massachusetts Historical Society about Underrepresented Voices in the American Revolution
 - He also notes the Revolution 250 podcast has 18000 downloads and is available in many countries and continents, live every Tuesday 11 am
 - Senator Kennedy asks Jonathan Lane for an update on funding for Revolution 250 and what does it mean for “by event”
 - Jonathan Lane notes that funding is an area of concern for small events. Guidelines are still being developed, the focus on event based grants only came about 6 weeks ago.
 - Michael Lawson mentions funding for Minuteman National Historical Park and for the refurbishment of the Battle Road
 - Senator Barrett thanked Jonathan Lane and asked him a question and asked if any attention is being given to those who fought on the other side, British, Native Americans, Enslaved People, Loyalists, etc.
 - Jonathan Lane notes that loyalists are an underrepresented group too.
- **Discussion of the Federal State and Private Funding**
 - Senator Kennedy suggests referring this to the Finance subcommittee
 - Jonathan Lane notes that federal funding is too restrictive but conversations are continuing
 - Motion to move to subcommittee, by Senator Barrett, seconded by Chair Fiola, all in favor, none opposed.
- **Closing Roll Call & Adjournment**
 - Meeting adjourned at 3:41 pm