

Arizona America250 Commission
History, Heritage, and Historic Preservation Subcommittee

Virtually via Zoom
Meeting Minutes of March 26, 2026

Subcommittee Members Present:

Ashley Harder, Chair, Stuart Rosebrook, Holly Henley, David Turpie, Caitlin Dichter, Eric Vondy, Helana Ruter

Subcommittee Members Not Present:

Leah Stagg, Margaret Hangan, Kathryn Leonard, Bridgette Crosby, David Breeckner, Jim McPherson, J.J. Lamb

Non-Voting Members Present: Ryan Ehrfurth

Non-Voting Members Not Present: Kori Tueller, Verlon Jose, Carolyn Rearly, Amy Hartmann-Gordon, Aimée C. Quinn, Jeremy Fricke, Steve Kaiser, Jill McCleary

1. Call to order and welcome.

Chair Harder called the meeting to order at 10:04am.

2. Discussion and possible action on meeting minutes from February 26, 2026.

Tabled due to lack of quorum.

3. Update, discussion, and possible action on the Arizona Heritage Youth Council.

The students meet regularly. They are currently working on a trip to Southern Arizona to see Titan Missile Museum, Tumacácori, and additional sites. The group is partnering with Santa Cruz Valley Heritage Alliance. Working with additional partners to support their trip and tours such as Tucson Presidio Trust. Executive Director Terech is sending grant applications and resources to the advisors. Commission may contemplate a legacy endowment for the Council's long-term sustainability. Tombstone Councilmember Lillian Hritz suggested cross-collaboration with county superintendents to share with their students. Jackie Clay in Bisbee is coordinating. Possible video from the members to share if they are not able to attend in person. Discussed potential advocacy days at the State Legislature for the students and heritage projects. May is National Preservation Month.

4. Member share out on upcoming events or initiatives.

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Councilmember Hritz shared thank yous for the Traveling Museum visit to Tombstone. Ken with the Lions club and the Sons of the American Revolution were helpful and it was exciting to collaborate and share connections. Stuart Rosebrook with Sharlot Hall attended in Tombstone. Over 1000 people attended. Councilmember Hritz had high compliments for tour manager Steve Weichert. The community loved the museum as well as the postcards. Councilmember Hritz will be sharing photos. Stuart Rosebrook also shared highlights from the Prescott launch. The community was very proud to be the launch site. He thanked the city and county as well as the Secretary of State's Office for the coordination and planning. He also thanked Ken Leja with the Lions club for the volunteer coordination.

At 1:30pm on May 2nd, the Sharlot Hall statue will be dedicated. Stuart will send more information. Secretary of State staff can help support with invitations to electeds. There is interest in looking for ways to extend A250 into the future with legacy projects.

David Turpie shared the new issue of the Journal of Arizona History. Spring 2026, Volume 67, Number 1. Print copies are not available yet but might be available for the next meeting. This is a free issue as they are normally behind a paywall. Dr. Turpie will give a longer presentation during the April meeting.

Helana Ruter from the City of Phoenix shared city planning. The City always does Fabulous Fourth at Indian Steele Park. They will do a special edition of their trivia night. Possible additional programming elements around City Hall. Council is reviewing additional options for summer engagement.

5. Report from Executive Director.

a. Arizona initiatives.

Executive Director Terech highlighted the upcoming joint History, Heritage & Historic Preservation and Travel & Tourism meeting in Flagstaff in April and provided RSVP information. ED Terech shared a highlight slide deck of the Traveling Museum and a rendering of the new ceremonial bell base and discussed a planned rededication ceremony in either July or the fall. Traveling Museum panels will be available for digital download and display. *Dear America, Love Arizona* postcards are available for partners if they would like to display completed cards. ED Terech provided information about the TheirStory oral storytelling project. The platform provides an avenue for Arizonans to share oral histories from their phone or laptop.

b. National initiatives.

Executive Director Terech highlighted the upcoming deadline for America's Field Trip. There is a national time capsule as well as an Arizona time capsule. For the national capsule, Arizona will be submitting two copper ingots and a letter from the Chair of the A250 AZ Commission. Encouraged members to check the newly-updated Arizona America250 website for a full slate of initiatives.

6. Call to the public.

No members of the public spoke.

7. Adjournment.

Chair Harder adjourned the meeting at 10:57am.

DRAFT