

**ARIZONA AMERICA250 COMMISSION
HISTORY, HERITAGE, AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION SUBCOMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

Date: Thursday, July 23, 2026

Time: 10:00 a.m.

Location: via Zoom

Subcommittee Members Present:

Ashley Harder, Chair	Stuart Rosebrook	Margaret Hangan
David Turpie	Holly Henley	Stuart Rosebrook
Caitlin Dichter	Jim McPherson	

1. Call to order and welcome.

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

2. Discussion and possible action on 3H meeting minutes from February 26, 2026, March 26, 2026, and May 28, 2026.

Jim McPherson motioned to approve the minutes as written, David Turpie seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Discussion and possible action on joint History, Heritage & Historic Preservation and Travel and Tourism meeting minutes from April 23, 2026.

Leah Stagg motioned to approve the minutes as written, Margaret Hangan seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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

Students participated in a field trip to Tucson, sponsored by the Santa Cruz Valley National Heritage Area using field trip funds. Arianna Urban accompanied four council members. The group visited Old Tucson, had dinner with a preservationist, and then traveled to Vail, where members of the Vail Preservation Society were present. They also visited the Titan Missile Museum.

A key success of the trip was that students engaged deeply with the concept of stewardship and how it applies to preservation work. Following the trip, students are now working on a National Register nomination for the Old Gilbert School, which is part of the Gilbert Historical Museum. The WPA Building was added as an amendment to the nomination.

Students also attended Arianna's CLG preservation training in conjunction with the Governor's Preservation Awards. They participated in the awards ceremony and connected with a member of the Governor's team, which later resulted in an invitation to the Governor's Office. Additionally, five council members attended the Preserve America Summit on Route 66. At the summit, they presented and gathered an interest list of more than 20 students. The program's application process will open soon, and there is ongoing discussion about expanding involvement beyond council membership.

Efforts are underway to encourage the formation of preservation clubs at schools. An ambassador program is also being developed, with plans for larger quarterly meetings. Kathryn and Arianna are collaborating on curriculum development for the coming year. A cohort model is being considered, with students serving two- to three-year terms. The council continues to meet monthly.

Margaret Hangan shared that it was a pleasure to host the Preserve America Summit in Williams. Stuart Rosebrook expressed interest in connecting his education manager with the council to explore potential opportunities with Sharlot Hall. Commissioner Harder shared that A250 AZ voted to support the HPYC with a \$15,000 investment. It is still being determined where exactly the funds will be held.

5. Discussion and possible action on history, heritage, and historic preservation projects.

a. Bell Rededication and Recognition Ceremony.

Executive Director Terech shared details about the upcoming October 1st ceremony, thanked members for their service, and told them to look for invites in early August.

6. Member share out on upcoming events or initiatives.

Lillian Hritz shared that Wild West Days with the Traveling Museum marked the beginning of broader celebrations in Tombstone. Allen Street was decorated with American flags, and the courthouse hosted two separate events. The DAR organized a light parade on the evening of July 4. On July 5, a local church hosted a community meal featuring hot dogs, salads, and potato chips. Lillian also noted that planning is underway for a future Day of the Cowboy event.

Leah Stagg reported on activities in Kingman, where craft events were offered for children along with raffle items. The community hosted an “old fashioned 4th of July” celebration that included potato sack races and other traditional games. Due to its success, the event has now been requested as an annual program.

Sharlot Hall Museum held a Heritage Day event that drew more than 750 visitors. The program was built around the 1864 Prescott Fourth of July celebration and included living history demonstrations, a mercantile and blacksmith shop, 19th-century games, cornhole, and a children’s parade. SAR and DAR participated, with Stuart reading an abridged version of the Declaration of Independence. The event also featured the national anthem and a posting of colors by SAR.

The Prescott A250 committee is transitioning into a standing cultural committee to continue this work moving forward. The group also welcomed visitors from the British Consulate in Los Angeles.

7. Report from Executive Director.

a. Arizona initiatives.

See 7b.

b. National initiatives.

Executive Director Terech spoke about the comprehensive presentation she has built as a retrospective on America250 from both an Arizona and a National perspective. She offered it to the group for bespoke presentations and shared a Liberty Bell video from Sundt Construction. Jim McPherson shared a preservation trades initiative.

<https://www.azpreservation.org/preservation-trades>

Terech shared that copies of her presentation were sent to all subcommittee members. Chair Harder expressed appreciation for the group and the work that has been done.

8. Discussion and possible action on future meetings and a joint in-person meeting between Travel & Tourism and History, Heritage & Historic Preservation.

Commissioner Harder shared that meetings will be sunset unless a pressing need comes up that would require a meeting.

9. Call to the public.

Stuart Rosebrook reported that work on the Governor's Mansion is approximately one month behind; however, a groundbreaking event is planned and will be announced in the near future.

Margaret Hangan provided updates on Camp Naco, noting that a soft opening is scheduled for October. The Borderlands Festival is planned for October 16–18 and remains in the planning stages. Organizers are currently seeking speakers and sponsors, and interested parties may sign up for updates via the project's newsletter link. Restoration work is progressing, with completion anticipated in early 2027.

<https://www.campnacoaz.org/unbelievable-borderlands-festival>

10. Adjournment.

Chair Harder adjourned the meeting at 11:06am.