

Arizona America250 Commission
History, Heritage & Historic Preservation Subcommittee
Virtually via Zoom
Meeting Minutes of January 23, 2025

1. Call to order and welcome.

Chair Harder called the meeting to order at 11:02am.

Subcommittee Voting Members Present:

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Ashley Harder, Chair | Helana Ruter | Holly Henley |
| Leah Stagg | David Turpie | Kelly McDonald |
| Margaret Hangan | Caitlin Dichter | Jim McPherson |
| Stuart Rosebrook | Eric Vondy | |

Subcommittee Voting Members Not Present:

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|-------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------|
| Verlon Jose | Kathryn Leonard | J.J. Lamb | David Breekner |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------|

2. Discussion and possible action on meeting minutes from December 19, 2024.

MOTION Chair Harder called for a motion to accept the draft minutes from the December 19, 2024, meeting. Helana Ruter motioned; Margaret Hangan seconded. The motion carried with no objection.

3. Discussion and possible action: Election of Vice Chair.

MOTION Chair Harder called for a motion to nominate a Vice Chair. Leah Stagg indicated interest in serving. Jim McPherson motioned; Kelly McDonald seconded. The motion was carried with no objection.

Leah Stagg shared more information about her background and current work as the Executive Director of the Mohave County Historical Society and the need for greater connections with non-Maricopa residents.

4. Presentation on Arizona's Bicentennial and Centennial commemorations.

Library and Archives staff spoke about the 2012 Centennial and the 1976 Bicentennial commemorations in Arizona including festivals, performances, municipal celebrations, museum exhibits, and collaboration with Arizona Tribes including the Hopi Office of Revenue

Commission. AZ Library has a pdf of all the Centennial legacy projects. Demonstrated how projects can be scalable as well as the benefits of collaboration to make impactful events. A goal for the subcommittee is to encourage collaboration between organizations and ensure that we have a presence at related conventions and gatherings. Chair Harder mentioned that A250 AZ will present at the Arizona Historical Preservation Conference in May. Chair Harder reported she has been having one-on-ones with different subcommittee members about programming and ensuring regional representation. Eric shared that the Arizona Historical Advisory Commission and was involved in the Centennial celebrations and offered to invite one of its members to attend subcommittee meetings. Mark Tebeau from ASU also shared the university's interest in putting on Semiquincentennial history events. Executive Director Terech went over logo licensing and letters of recommendation for grants.

5. Discussion and possible action on establishing projects and initiatives relating to history, historic preservation, and heritage for the Semiquincentennial.

a. Two Lights for Tomorrow.

Caitlin Dichter shared information about Ancient Tech Day with the S'edav Va'aki Museum on March 8, 2025, and offered to make connections with the demonstrators for the Two Lights for Tomorrow event on April 18, 2025. Basket making, pottery, archery, lace making, cooking, adobe brick making, storytelling opportunities. Discussed lighting setup for the Capitol and the ability to let members of the public in prior to the start time to explore the educational exhibits. The subcommittee would also like DAR to participate and secure a poetry interpretation in conjunction with the Arts subcommittee. Reaching out to Tucson Presidio regarding similar programming.

b. Traveling Museum and K-12 materials.

No discussion.

c. Curated lists for Passport250.

No discussion.

d. Route 66 Centennial.

Chair Harder spoke about the planning going on by the folks running this celebration and asked for an update from anyone working on this to the subcommittee. Eric Vondy said his coworker David Zimmerman is involved in this and that he can get updates from him. Stuart Rosebrook said he would like to be connected to the R66C

planning group and spoke about the centennial for Route 89 and celebrating the work of Grace Sparks as well as the centennial of the US Highway System, also in 2026. Jim McPherson spoke of conversations he has had with folks around R66C, and he will facilitate introductions for the subcommittee. Lauren Clementino said she will report back to the subcommittee about planning the City of Flagstaff is doing. Resources for R66C are available related to historic preservation through the National Trust.

e. May Hicks House preservation.

Lauren Clementino shared that there is no current update on the May Hicks House, but there should be one in the next month related to the moving of the house.

f. Arizona historic preservation sites.

Eric Vondy will share more information at the next meeting.

g. Brainstorming additional history and heritage projects and initiatives.

ED Terech shared invitations from DAR for an American Revolution exhibition and invited the members of the subcommittee to an event honoring Arizona Statehood Day on February 14, 2025. Information was shared about the American Association for State and Local History's upcoming "250" February 27-28, 2025.

Chair Harder shared information about a working group for Interpretation and asked members to get in contact with her.

6. Discussion and possible action on subcommittee membership and future meeting dates.

No action or discussion. The next meeting is scheduled for February 19, 2025, at 11am.

7. Call to the public.

Stuart Rosebrook spoke about an assessment and possible work being done to help preserve the territorial governor's mansion in Prescott.

8. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:05pm.