

Arizona America250 Commission
History, Heritage & Historic Preservation Subcommittee

Virtually via Zoom

Meeting Minutes of June 25, 2025

1. Call to order, roll call, and welcome.

Chair Harder called the meeting to order at 11:04am. Chair Harder shared that Vice Chair Stagg had to step down from her role. The chair will add filling the open Vice Chair position to the agenda of a future meeting.

Subcommittee Voting Members Present:

Ashley Harder, Chair
Margaret Hangan
Holly Henley
Stuart Rosebrook

Eric Vondy
David Turpie
Caitlin Dichter

Jim McPherson
J.J. Lamb
Kathryn Leonard

Subcommittee Voting Members Not Present:

Verlon Jose
Leah Stagg

Helana Ruter
Kelly McDonald

David Breeckner

2. Discussion and possible action on meeting minutes from May 22, 2025.

MOTION Chair Harder motioned to approve the May 22, 2025, meeting minutes. Caitlin Dichter seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

3. Presentation, discussion, and possible action on the Celebrating Arizona podcast with Lisa Schnebly Heidinger.

Lisa had been a commissioner for the 2012 Centennial celebration. She hosts a podcast and would like to feature the work and programs of the America250 Arizona Commission. Lisa

shared something she called a “sizzle reel” highlighting her podcast and explained her goals for collaborating with the commission. Initially, she will feature A250 in commercials on her podcast, and she welcomes suggestions from subcommittee members for items to include on her podcast, which launched in February of this year. Stuart Rosebrook shared that his museum will be dedicating a statue of Sharlot Hall in October. A discussion was had about possible topics to be featured on her podcast.

4. Informational member presentation on their organization and/or 2026 plans.

Stuart shared that Sharlot Hall Museum’s plan is to launch their A250 exhibit in April 2026. The City of Prescott is focusing on September 2026 to celebrate Route 66’s centennial.

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

a. Interpretation document for events and educational materials. Chair Harder has been working with David Turpie and AHS on a primer that has been sent to the working group for feedback. David wishes to add some historical context about questions regarding Arizona not being a colony in 1776. Chair Harder hopes that communities will be excited to decide how they want to celebrate the Semiquincentennial. Jeanette Holverson added that, in the working document, she saw opportunities to add items to educational programs she is working with. Jeanette asked the Chair and ED about the Traveling Museum. ED Terech reported that we are currently trying to source a vehicle and have been working with the State Procurement Office. Discussion was had about plans for including the replica Liberty Bell as part of the Traveling Museum. Further discussion was had about plans for specific events around the state in 2026. Kathryn Leonard shared about work she is currently doing around examining colonialism and the indigenous population.

MOTION Chair Harder motioned to share the working document with the Commission. David Turpie seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

b. Curated lists and submission form for Passport250. ED Terech shared the link to share sites and subjects/topics to be featured in Passport250.

c. Route 66 Centennial. Covered in item #4.

d. May Hicks House preservation. Lauren Clementino did not have any big updates since last month. The main thing that has happened since the last meeting has been her working on procurement orders. Lauren shared the City of Flagstaff’s website featuring the May Hicks House.

e. Member share out on events across the state. Not discussed.

6. Discussion and possible action on subcommittee membership and future meeting dates. Chair Harder asked ED Terech to explain the new attendance policy. The commission adopted a policy whereby, if a member misses two meetings, they are moved to non-voting status. This was initiated in an effort to help each subcommittee meet quorums more easily. The third Thursday of the month was selected, so the next meetings will be on 17 July, 21 August, and 18 September, all at 10:00 AM.

7. Call to the public. No items were brought forth.

8. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:11pm.