

Arizona America250 Commission

Civic Engagement, Education & Community Service Subcommittee

Virtually via Zoom

Meeting Minutes of August 25, 2025

1. Call to order and welcome.

Chair Tighe called the meeting to order at 3:02pm.

Subcommittee Voting Members Present:

Paul Tighe, Chair

Andy Price

Tara Bartlett

Dawn Wallace, Vice Chair

KaRa Lyn Thrasher

Andy Price

Tim Carter

Tracey Benson

Megan Hammond

Sharon Doyle

2. Discussion and possible action on meeting minutes from June 30, 2025.

MOTION Approval of draft minutes as written. Tim Carter motioned, Dawn Wallace seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

- 3. Presentation, discussion, and possible action from Joyce Harper from the Dougherty Foundation on an A250 AZ scholarship initiative.** The Dougherty Foundation offers grant money, and she spoke about a scholarship around A250 that her foundation could potentially offer. Co-Chair Tighe thanked the foundation and spoke to recommending to pass this on to the Commission to approve.

MOTION Formal recommendation from the Civics subcommittee for the A250 AZ Commission to explore a potential scholarship partnership with the Dougherty Foundation. Tracey Benson motioned, Tim Carter seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

4. Report from the Executive Director.

a. Tentpole initiative updates. ED Terech spoke about the Traveling Museum and how it is going out for procurement. Once the vehicle is secured, the next steps will be to start working on content creation and the tour route. Some of the things this subcommittee will want to look at – what types of civics activities or exercises we want to include. Larger exhibits will be static. The museum will also utilize digital exhibits. Passport250 initiative has launched. There are 100 sites live with room for 150 more. The subcommittee was encouraged to nominate sites.

5. Updates, discussion and possible action on projects and initiatives related to civics engagement, education, and community service in honor of the Semiquincentennial.

a. Read250. Megan Hammond reported that she and ED Terech met with a library group last week to discuss a year-long reading program. They suggested we use the 5 C's in our Read250 logo.

b. Educational toolkits and other partnership initiatives with the Arizona Department of Education. ED Terech gave an update on the development of toolkits to utilize with the Traveling Museum and the Seal of Civics Literacy.

c. Community outreach and connecting with community service organizations. ED Terech invited civic organizations to be active in planning for 2026. Troy Campbell spoke about the Rotary Club's high school program. Ken Leja spoke about the Lions. Jim Schmidt from the Rotary Club said they are aiming to complete 250 service projects in the community. Chair Tighe reminded the group that 17 September is going to be Constitution Day. The Arizona Civics Coalition, Flinn Foundation, the AZ Cardinals, and another group will be hosting a Women of the Supreme Court event on 25 September. A link to register was shared in the meeting chat.

d. Postsecondary outreach and the Higher Education Convening on September 9, 2025. Co-Chair Wallace gave a background on this project. ED Terech said that we have had a good response for RSVPs. She also spoke about a gentleman who contacted her with a suggestion to put the national and state A250 logos on diplomas from 2026.

e. Possible Arizona America250 state-level volunteer awards or volunteer recognition. Two types of awards would be given, one for civics and one for history.

f. Share out from subcommittee members on additional events for possible promotion and co-branding. Jackie Norton discussed a program being planned for 20 January 2026 at Cardinals Stadium which will center on civics and civics literacy. ED Terech confirmed a student town hall taking place on 21 October. KaRa Lyn Thrasher spoke of an event this week called "Unpacking the Mythology of the American Dream".

6. Call to the Public. No public comments were received.

7. Adjournment Next meeting is 29 September at 3:00 PM. Adjourned at 3:42pm.

DRAFT