

Arizona America250 Commission

In person and virtually via Zoom

Meeting Minutes of August 26, 2024

I. Call to order and roll call

Chair Fontes called the meeting to order at 1:03pm.

Commission Members Present:

Adrian Fontes
Jay McCall

Verlon Jose
Anna Needham

Ashley Harder
Sarah Webber

Commission Members Absent:

Senate Member (TBD)
Paul Tighe

House Member (TBD)
Marcus Carney

Neil Giuliano

II. Discussion and possible action on meeting minutes for August 5, 2024

MOTION Ms. Webber motioned to approve the minutes from the August 5, 2024. Ms. Needham seconded. The motion was carried unanimously and the 8/5 draft minutes were accepted with no changes.

III. Presentation from Dianna Manasse of Arizona State Library, Archives, & Public Records on Arizona's Bicentennial and Centennial activities.

Ms. Manasse shared newspaper clippings and events from the Bicentennial and Centennial celebrations. The Commission seeks to increase the number of events for A250 by hosting more events in more cities, with a priority for multiple events in each county. Suggestion from Ms. Harder to include books and other Bicentennial/Centennial material in the Library & Archive database for educational purposes.

IV. Discussion and possible action on next steps for Subcommittee work.

Commission members were provided with a list of suggested subcommittee membership for review.

Executive Director Terech presented the final subcommittee working groups: Arts, Museums & Cultural Institutions, Civic Engagement, Education & Community Service, Commemorations, Celebrations & Events, Fundraising & Partnerships, History, Historic Preservation & Heritage, Military & Veterans Affairs, Municipal Outreach & Tribal Affairs, Public Awareness: Marketing, Social Media & Website, and Travel & Tourism. Parks, Recreation, Nature & Wildlife has been combined with Travel & Tourism.

Five tentpole projects and six additional initiatives were presented for consideration. Staff will continue to collect information regarding operationalizing the projects.

Two Lights for Tomorrow: the Commission will work with the Governor's Office and the Legislature to coordinate an event, with a focus on expanding participation to municipalities, communities, and houses of worship.

Traveling Exhibition: Staff will speak with Legislative Council to determine whether the replica Liberty Bell is able to be moved. As the exhibition is traveling throughout the state, each community visited will have the opportunity to provide items for a 50-year and 100-year time capsule.

Arizona America250 Passport: The Public Awareness subcommittee will work with a variety of social media accounts and local influencers for organic growth as well as the opportunity to develop public-private partnerships.

Service250: Individual hours of civic engagement and community service. Looking into the possibility of the Commission becoming authorized to bestow the President's Volunteer Service award. Staff will research the tracking mechanism as well as look into what would qualify as an approved activity.

Saguaros250: Possibility to ask companies to sponsor a sculpture and match with an artist. This project would be connected to the Arizona America250 passport so Arizonans and visitors could visit all the saguaro sculptures.

Sample Mission, Vision, Values statements were presented to the Commission.

V. Discussion and possible action on Commission mission, vision, and values statements.

MOTION Mr. McCall motioned to approve the mission statement. Ms. Webber seconded. The motion was carried unanimously, and the suggested mission statement was accepted as written.

Commissioners discussed the vision and values statements and offered several proposed changes. Adoption of vision and values will be tabled until the next meeting.

VI. Old Business

a. Update on 501c3

Executive Director Terech is in preliminary talks with the Arizona Community Foundation as well as Vitalyst to serve as a fiduciary pass-through for official Arizona America250 fundraising.

b. Update on logo contest

Demonstration of the logo contest website and a suggested timeline:

Sept 3: Logo Contest Launch

Sept 30: Logo Submission Deadline

Oct 1-4th: Internal Staff/Commission Select Finalists

Oct 7th: Final Voting Begins

Nov 5th: Final Voting Deadline

Nov 8th: AZ A250 Logo Announced

Press conference scheduled for 10am on September 3rd to introduce the contest and share additional information about the work of the Commission, including the mission statement and the current version of the values statements. Sample logos from other states will be featured on cardboard placards. The contest could be extended if the Commission would like additional submissions.

VII. Discussion and possible action on future meeting dates

September 3rd 10am-12pm, September 16th 1pm-3pm, September 30th 1pm-3pm

Future meetings will include reports from each subcommittee via a format where members share what they will do by the next meeting.

VIII. Call to the Public

Andrew Bauman from the Arizona Craft Brewers Guild introduced himself and is looking forward to partnership opportunities to highlight Arizona breweries across the state as part of the Arizona America250 passport.

IX. Adjournment

Chair Fontes adjourned the meeting at 2:15pm.