

Arizona America250 Commission
In person and virtually via Zoom
Meeting Minutes of December 3, 2024

I. Call to order and roll call

Chair Fontes called the meeting to order at 10:40am.

Commission Members Present:

Adrian Fontes	Paul Tighe	Ashley Harder	Paul Tighe
Jay McCall	Anna Needham	Neil Giuliano	Sarah Webber

Commission Members Absent:

Senate Member (TBD)	House Member (TBD)	Verlon Jose
Marcus Carney		

II. Discussion and possible action on meeting minutes for September 30 and October 18, 2024.

MOTION The 9/30/34 and 10/18/24 minutes were adopted unanimously by joint motion with no changes. Mr. Tighe motioned, Ms. Harder seconded.

III. Commissioner update and possible action on individual subcommittee work.

Military & Veterans Affairs: The Military & Veterans Affairs subcommittee met for the first time on 12/2/24. Secretary Fontes briefed the group on A250 and the nature of subcommittee work and asked members to reach out to their network to bring additional members to the group. Representatives were in attendance from the Disabled American Veterans of Arizona, the Gilbert Veterans Advisory Board, the USS Arizona Legacy

Foundation, the National Guard Association of Arizona, the American Legion, and the Department of Emergency and Military Affairs. The USS Arizona will have three bells created for the new submarine. There is a possibility of taking one out with the replica Liberty Bell Traveling Museum. Member checking with Department of the Navy. January, February, and March meetings have all been scheduled.

History, Historic Preservation & Heritage: The History, Historic Preservation and Heritage subcommittee will meet on 12/19/24. Ms. Harder has been meeting individually with subcommittee members to bring them up to speed on the projects and how she hopes to develop a work plan for the subcommittee. 15 or so members initially with a plan to add. It is a priority to be a statewide group. The focus will be on how to support the tentpole projects and gauge capacity for smaller organizations to participate in the Traveling Museum. The subcommittee also plans to be involved in programming and interpretation for the Two Lights for Tomorrow kickoff event on April 18, 2025.

Civic Engagement, Education & Community Service: The Civic Engagement, Education & Community Service subcommittee has met twice. Dawn Wallace from Flinn Foundation was voted Vice Chair. At the 12/2/24 meeting, the O'Connor Institute provided a short presentation on their civics programs, there is a possibility to co-promote and work with them. Discussed the Seal of Civics Literacy and possible A250 AZ qualifying projects. Hannah Rude from the Arizona Department of Education has joined that subcommittee. The group also discussed the President's Volunteer Service Award and potential cost for shipping awards. Will bring it before the full commission when the subcommittee is ready to move forward. There is a need to house the President's Volunteer Service Award authorization permanently as a legacy project for A250 AZ. The group discussed Read250 and ways to promote literacy, including partnering with library groups, the Arizona State Fair, and professional sports teams. The subcommittee also discussed partnering with voter registration organizations for Register250. The Civics group is seeking ways to engage senior citizens, promote educational outreach with the Department of Corrections, and engage with the Department of Veterans Services. The subcommittee will meet again on 1/27/25 to divide work and take actionable steps. There may be crossover between committees for programs like the American Legion oratorical contest.

Travel & Tourism: Ms. Webber, Mr. Carney, and Executive Director Terech attended the 11/14/224 consortium meeting of tourism organizations across the state. The Travel & Tourism subcommittee is still conducting outreach and will meet on 1/22/25.

Arts, Museums & Cultural Institutions and Public Awareness, Marketing & Social Media: Arts & Culture as well as PR & Marketing haven't been scheduled yet. Ms. Needham is looking to bring together a large group to ensure representation, specifically individuals who manage public art. This will initially focus more on public art rather than

performance or presenting arts until that becomes more relevant to the work. The Traveling Museum will be key for bringing the group together. For PR & Marketing, Ms. Needham, Mr. Carney, and Executive Director Terech met with the person who did the PR and graphic design for the Centennial to get a sense of the scope of work that might be required and bid out for A250.

Fundraising & Partnerships: For the Fundraising subcommittee, a preliminary project budget is being finalized with the hope of having it finished by the end of the year. Secretary Fontes will be speaking before a group of CEOs on 12/6/24 to make big sponsorship asks.

Update from Commissioner McCall: Mr. McCall is participating in the Civics and Events subcommittees. He has a request in to the Amphitheater School District superintendent to promote America's Field Trip. The initiative might be presented to the Pima County Schools as well as the Catholic school system. Mr. McCall continues to publish his monthly Pima County newsletter. Shared the importance of partnering with the State Fair to build awareness around A250.

For all of the subcommittees, Chair Fontes emphasized the importance of using technology to ensure this is an accessible, statewide project.

IV. Report from legal counsel.

a. Open meeting law review for the purposes of subcommittee work.

Deputy General Counsel Will Davis provided an overview of open meeting laws for the purpose of subcommittee work (see supplemental). The best practice is to reach out to legal ahead of time if there are questions as he will not be able to attend every subcommittee meeting. Payments, contracts, logo usage, or anything to do with acquiring or dispersing physical and material goods needs to be brought to the full commission for approval. A vote to approve minutes will be required at each subcommittee meeting.

b. Statute regarding reimbursement for Commission members.

As per session law of SB1497, commission members are not eligible for reimbursement of expenses or compensation.

V. Presentation, discussion and possible action on event planning for Two Lights for Tomorrow.

Natalie Cionciola from the Secretary of State's staff presented an internal proposal for the Two Lights for Tomorrow event (see supplemental). For the event, Commissioners requested live captioning or interpreters for accessibility. Chair Fontes suggested he can emcee the event to allow for additional time for speeches from the Governor, President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House. Staff will continue to build out an internal plan until the Commission acquires the funds to bid the project out.

VI. Discussion and possible action regarding next steps for the A250 AZ logo contest.

Executive Director Terech shared that the contest has nearly 2,000 votes already and encouraged continued promotion. The deadline for voting is 12/12/24.

a. Discussion on options for possible licensing agreement between AZA250 and other parties.

- a. Deputy General Counsel Will Davis led a discussion about what kind of licensing agreement the Commission would like to create for logo usage. He will create a sample license agreement to bring before the Commission for the next meeting and look into both state and federal trademarks.

VII. Report from Executive Director.

Executive Director Terech shared that the fiscal sponsorship contract has gone out for bid as per the State Procurement Office. If no bids are received, a direct contract will be permissible.

VIII. Discussion and possible action on 2025 meeting dates.

The Commission will meet at 9am on the first Monday of each month.

IX. Public Comment.

Kelly McDonald shared that three members from the Daughters of the American Revolution were attending via Zoom. They are coordinating with Ms. Harder around subcommittee work as they engage in their own America250 efforts.

Rob Fullmer with the Craft Brewers Guild announced that their annual meeting will be at San Tan Gardens on Tuesday, December 10th and offered a speaking spot for anyone on the Commission who would like to share information about America250 and Cheers250.

X. Adjournment.

Chair Fontes adjourned the meeting at 12:07pm.

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