

## ACTON 250<sup>TH</sup> COMMITTEE

### History Subcommittee

April 20, 2023

Meeting minutes

Attending: Bob Ferrara, Anne Forbes, Pamela Lynn, Sue Peterman. Absent: Mary Price Maddox, Alissa Nicol

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The meeting was called to order by chair Pamela Lynn at 10:45 a.m. in the Acton Memorial Library second-floor conference room.

Revised minutes of the April 13 meeting were reviewed, and were unanimously approved with one amendment.

#### Procedural matters

As it looks like Mary Price will be resigning from the subcommittee, there will be five full members. The quorum will be three.

#### Preparation for next Acton 250<sup>th</sup> Committee meeting, April 24.

It was agreed that we should prepare to report to next week's meeting on the following subcommittee progress to date:

- Review of recent 2023 Patriots' Day Acton activities: Well attended; all went smoothly. We recommend placing porta-potties along the line of march in the future.
- Considerable source material identified, including Concord Museum April 19<sup>th</sup> exhibit (now available through Vimeo) and online "Shot Heard Round the World" virtual exhibit.
- Review of the recent Patriots' Day publicity, and material gathered on other communities' publicity.
- Timeline of projected activities. Created an "architecture" for displaying plans for the next three years (with thanks to Sue for setting up a working chart)
- Establishing coordination with the Memorial Library on sources and information.

Other ideas discussed, to be proposed and pursued with the main committee:

- Student intern or Eagle Scout involvement
- Potential funding sources: grant programs, business sponsorships, etc.

#### Planning timeline and "framework"

A new chart set up by Sue P. was reviewed and discussed. Suggestions included adding color-coding for various types of activities, which may include:

- Pop-ups (re-enactor appearances)
- Speakers
- Exhibitions
- Newspaper/published columns and articles—possibly highlighting individual things such as objects, letters, etc.
- Committee publications—handouts, rack cards, etc. on topics such as individual historic figures, buildings, objects and collections items.

It was emphasized that we should always keep the Acton context in mind when dealing with broader events or people. There should be plenty of subject matter available in the present and historic local

landscape, for instance, such as surviving buildings, stone walls, root cellars, tombs, waterways, etc. that had a connection to the Revolution. Combing Town Reports for the subject of some short articles was also suggested, such as the roles of town officers—Town Clerks, fence viewers, hog reaves, etc.—as well as decisions made at various town meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m. Tentative next meetings: May 10, May 24.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anne Forbes