

ACTON 250TH COMMITTEE

History Subcommittee

November 22, 2024 meeting minutes

Attending: Bob Ferrara, Anne Forbes, Bill Klauer, Pamela Lynn

The meeting was called to order by Chair Pamela Lynn at 10:10 a.m. in the Acton Memorial Library.

Approval of past minutes

The minutes of the November 8 meeting were unanimously approved as written.

Schedule of upcoming Acton 250th and related events.

Two more South Acton tours have been scheduled with Amy Cole, both for 1 p.m.

2024	December 5:	Daniel Mandell: "Native Americans in Southern NE & the Revolution"
	"	12: Acton 250 th Committee meeting
	"	13: History Subcommittee meeting
2025	January	17: History Subcommittee meeting
	"	29: Joel Bohy: "Dreadful Were the Vestiges of War"
	"	31: History Subcommittee meeting
	February	26: Volunteer program for Black History Month
	March	6: sculptor Meredith Bergman
	"	22: Amy Cole: South Acton walking tour
	"	31: John Bell: topic to be determined
	April	5: Amy Cole: South Acton walking tour
	"	17: 250 th celebration, AML

REVIEW OF RECENT PROGRAMS and EVENTS

Malcolm Purinton's talk "One for the Revolutionary Road" was more about beer than about tavern life, but it was agreed that it was enjoyable, and the audience seemed to enjoy it, including the many students who attended.

Joel Mackall's very enjoyable "Hidden History of Black Boston" was briefly revisited, and it was suggested we might ask him to speak again, and to weave in his experience as an A-B grad. All were urged to visit his website, at www.reidren.com.

Amy Cole's 11/9 South Acton tour went well, with a sold-out group of very interested participants. Amy began with a 1-hour illustrated lecture in the Great Hall of the Faulkner House. The event was not officially filmed, and there was some discussion afterward about the need to get the speaker's OK for filming or photographing their presentation.

PREP. for DEC. 12 250th COMMITTEE MEETING and WINTER/SPRING 2025 PLANS

At the committee meeting, we should again review the publicity procedures, including changes and improvements to the 250th website. We will ask to review the events and speakers' write-ups, and offer to hang posters, etc.

Pam reported on a recent conference with Ann Chang of the Friends of the Library and Steve Trimble. The library will not be organizing the April 17th 250th event, so alternative approaches were discussed. A blend of the last two "beer launch" events may be a possibility, again including demonstrators, speakers such as Malcolm Purinton, someone from Pine Hawk, etc.

250th archives/"legacy list" planning. We need to discuss with the committee how we might archive the results we have produced for the 250th. As a first step, Bob offered to start a legacy list of our material. Pam suggested that this might mean storing things in multiple locations, including online, the library, and/or Town Hall.

Upcoming lectures.

12/5: Daniel Mandell. "The Times Are Exceedingly Altered," Town Hall. Co-sponsored with Friends of Pine Hawk. Steve Trimble will film this, as ActonTV will not be available. Bob is working on a summary together with Pine Hawk.

1/29/25: Joel Bohy. "Dreadful Were the Vestiges of War." Bob is in touch with the speaker.

2/26: Acton's Black History presentation (no title as yet). Bill and Anne reported on the first meeting of the volunteers involved. A title and publicity summary are still to come.

3/6: Sculptor Meredith Bergman. Bob and Pam are in touch; a title is still needed.

3/31: John Bell. John has suggested four possible topics and titles. In discussion, one that focuses on spies in 1775 was judged the most promising.

Council on Aging spring event

Pam reported that a meeting of the Friends of the COA is scheduled for next week to further his along. It will be a dinner event, probably on March 25. Some suggestions for a program included a speaker (possibly Mary Fuhrer), and/or a volunteer presentation from the Historical Society about April 19th celebrations over the years.. Another idea was to ask Tom and Cathy Griffin to present something from the Acton Minutemen.

ARTICLES.

Following on the discussion at the last meeting, Anne has contacted editor Franny Osman about the possibility of publishing the historical articles the committee has prepared in the online *Acton Exchange*. Franny expressed her enthusiasm for the proposal, and she plans to discuss it with her editorial board.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 p.m. Next meeting: Friday, December 13, 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Forbes