

DRAFT
CHARLESTOWN 250TH COMMITTEE
Thursday, June 26, 2025

Meeting minutes of the Charlestown 250th Committee held on Thursday, June 26, 2025 at the Charlestown Town Hall, 4540 South County Trail, Charlestown, RI 02813

The meeting was called to order at 4:34 pm by Phil Gingerella, Chair.

In attendance were Charlestown voting committee members: Deb Carney, Patrice Fenton (as of 4:42), Phil Gingerella, Pam Lyons, and Peter Slom

Absent Members: Dana Hall and David Monahan

Absent Non-Voting members (non-residents): Vicky Hilton, Charlestown Parks & Recreation Director; Heather Paliotta, Executive Director Charlestown Chamber of Commerce, Andrea Drake, Chariho High School Principal; Jennifer Poore, Charlestown Elementary School Principal, Robert Whitaker, Chariho Social Studies Department Chair (non-voting members)

Guest: Terri Shafer

MOTION BY Deb Carney, SECOND BY Peter Slom TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES FROM MAY 22, 2025.

Vote 5-0. IN FAVOR: CARNEY, FENTON, GINGERELLA, LYONS AND SLOM
MOTION CARRIED

CHAIRMAN REPORT:

Chair Gingerella reported on the following items:

- 1) The State Committee wants Charlestown to be part of a data base. Chair Gingerella will fill out the information. The state is building a hub for all the cities and towns. Charlestown is part of the initial Beta version.
- 2) The town received an email from a resident concerned the 250th Celebratory Logo would replace the official Town Seal. The 250th Logo will not replace the official town seal.
- 3) The committee needs to finalize the location for the Liberty Tree. Several locations in the front of the Town Hall were considered. Chair Gingerella will speak with the Town Administrator. The committee also discussed the Conceptual Plans for the front of the Town Hall as presented by the URI Landscaping Students.
- 4) Update on the roaming display and the George Washington cutout.
- 5) Chair Gingerella is speaking with Narragansett Indian Tribal members tomorrow to again extend an invitation to join the committee
- 6) Chair Gingerella will also attend an event at the Cross Mills Library New Pavilion sponsored by the Historical Society. Pam Lyons researched and found a George Washington life-size cutout. The committee discussed adding the QR Code for the 250th website page.

7) Discussion on Revolutionary Graves around town.

Subcommittee Reports:

- 1) The committee discussed possible locations for the Liberty Tree which will be planted in September. The tree will be planted at Town Hall. Exact location to be determined.

Timeline:

There is one possible change to the previously approved timeline. The committee may change the date of the moving display for the Historical Society.

MOTION BY Deb Carney, SECOND BY Pam Lyons to AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR TO FINALIZE THE TIMELINE AND ADVERTISE AS HE DEEMS APPROPRIATE.

**Vote 5-0. IN FAVOR: CARNEY, FENTON GINGERELLA, LYONS, AND SLOM
MOTION CARRIED**

New Business – None

Logo Designs:

Chair Gingerella presented the final draft of the logo

MOTION BY Deb Carney, SECOND BY Patrice Fenton to APPROVE THE LOGO AS PRESENTED

**Vote 5-0. IN FAVOR: CARNEY, FENTON GINGERELLA, LYONS, AND SLOM
MOTION CARRIED**

MOTION BY Deb Carney, SECOND BY Peter Sлом to AUTHORIZE THE CHAIR TO SPEND UP TO \$300.00 TO HAVE THE LOGO PROFESSIONALLY DESIGNED

**Vote 5-0. IN FAVOR: CARNEY, FENTON GINGERELLA, LYONS, AND SLOM
MOTION CARRIED**

Public Comment - None

MOTION TO ADJOURN by Deb Carney, SECOND by Pam Lyons.

**Vote 5-0. IN FAVOR: CARNEY, FENTON, GINGERELLA, LYONS and SLOM.
MOTION CARRIED. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm**

Submitted by,

Deb Carney, Secretary

Charlestown 250th Committee