

**DRAFT**  
CHARLESTOWN 250<sup>TH</sup> COMMITTEE  
Thursday, May 30, 2024

Meeting minutes of the Charlestown 250<sup>th</sup> Committee held on Thursday, May 30, 2024 at the Charlestown Town Hall, Council Chambers, 4540 South County Trail, Charlestown, RI 02813

In attendance were Charlestown voting committee members: Deb Carney, Phil Gingerella, Dana Hall, Pam Lyons, David Monahan.

Absent: Peter Slom

Non-Voting members (non-residents): Vicky Hilton, Charlestown Parks & Recreation Director; Heather Paliotta, Executive Director Charlestown Chamber of Commerce; Andrea Spas, Chariho High School Principal

Absent: Jennifer Poore, Charlestown Elementary School Principal; Robert Whitaker, Chariho Social Studies Department Chair

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Deb Carney.

**Motion by Pam Lyons, second by David Monahan to TABLE THE APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS UNTIL THE END OF THE MEETING**

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

The committee discussed the annual meeting calendar.

**MOTION BY Phil Gingerella, SECOND BY David Monahan TO SET THE ANNUAL COMMITTEE MEETING CALENDAR TO BE THE FOURTH THURSDAY OF THE MONTH AT 4:30 PM. DUE TO SUMMER SCHEDULES, THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 26<sup>TH</sup> AT 4:30PM**

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

The committee discussed their charge as outlined in the Town Council Resolution dated April 22, 2024.

The committee discussed possible initiatives to celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Charlestown in 2026. Possible initiatives include:

- 1) Parade- including floats.
- 2) Gathering of Voices
- 3) Activities at historical locations. Possibilities -Wilcox Tavern, Fort Ninigret, and / or General Stanton Inn
- 4) Timeline and events could coincide with actual event dates from 250 years ago.

- 5) Historical plays – involvement of High School, Middle School and Elementary School students
- 6) 250<sup>th</sup> Logo contest
- 7) Involvement of CHARIHOTech students including hospitality, marketing, welding, graphic design, etc.
- 8) Civics day
- 9) 250<sup>th</sup> Time Capsule
- 10) Virtual Walking Tour- including maps
- 11) Enlist Eagle Scouts
- 12) Historical Cemeteries
- 13) Traveling Display for schools, library, senior center, etc
- 14) Include Link on Town's website, create Facebook page
- 15) George Washington Impersonator
- 16) Pamphlets / books

The possible initiatives listed above were broken down into three themes,

- A. Events
- B. Display / Historical Information
- C. Logo / memorabilia / keepsakes

The committee discussed possible collaboration with the other elementary schools in the district. Committee members volunteered to do research and outreach in preparation for the September 26, 2024 meeting.

**MOTION by Phil Gingerella, second by Pam Lyons TO TAKE THE APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS FROM THE TABLE**

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

**MOTION by Deb Carney, second by Dana Hall TO APPOINT PHIL GINGERELLA AS CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE**

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

**MOTION by Deb Carney, second by Phil Gingerella TO APPOINT PAM LYONS AS VICE-CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE**

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

**MOTION by Phil Gingerella, second by David Monahan TO APPOINT DEB CARNEY AS SECRETARY OF THE COMMITTEE**

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

**MOTION TO ADJOURN by Pam Lyons, second by David Monahan.  
Vote 5-0. IN FAVOR: CARNEY, GINGERELLA, HALL, LYONS, AND MONAHAN  
MOTION CARRIED. Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm**

Submitted by,  
Deb Carney, Secretary  
Charlestown 250<sup>th</sup> Committee