

Committee Meeting Notes
Vermont 250th Anniversary Commission
School and Teacher Outreach Committee
February 13, 2023
3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
Virtual Meeting Only
Microsoft Teams meeting

Present

Phil Holland
Martha Deiss
Victoria Hughes
Laura Trieschmann
Elsa Gilbertson
Jonah Spivak
Rich Strum
Cathy Delneo

Absent

Israel Provoncha
Stuart Lilie
Rejoice Scherry

Public Attendees

Victoria Anderson
Lisa Bresler
Elizabeth Frascoia
Ian Burfort-Rochford
Paul Deslands
Christopher Kaufman Islup
Stephen Perkins

Welcome and introductions of committee members and public attendees.

No changes were required to the agenda; minutes of the Jan. 9, 2023 were approved and no public comment was offered.

Phil Holland introduced guest speaker Elizabeth Frascoia from VT Governor's Institute (GIV) and added that he envisioned possibly three GIV 250th opportunities beginning in 2024-25.

Elizabeth stated that she would like to hear 250th goals and how we feel GIV would fit with students. She provided background on the program:

- 1-2 week sessions as residential programs on seven different VT campuses during the summer for 9-11 graders;
- Goal is to inspire young people to imagine careers and 'what life could be';
- Supports student personal growth, self-confidence, knowledge, emphasis on hands-on learning, and provides a cohort of new friends;

- Partners with all high schools in the state;
- In regards to financial access, GIV will work with families- apx. 84% of families take some sort of financial aide; cost is apx. \$1900 for 1 week and \$2200 for two weeks; work with AOE and VSAC and private fund-raising; largest expenses are room and board- smallest Institute had a budget of \$25,000
- Apx. 500 students each summer;
- Arts is the most popular and longest running program; history has not been in huge demand; currently GIV runs Global Issues and Youth Action with apx. 65 students.

What would the process look like for the sub-committee to make a proposal?

Elizabeth responded that the GIV would look at the leadership behind the proposal as well as experience with young people. How does the proposal complement what is currently taught in high schools? After detailed proposal is received, it is reviewed and sent to the GIV curriculum committee on their board. Ideas mentioned from committee and participants:

- interdisciplinary and CTE connections.
- possibility of themes correlating to dates/times in Revolutionary period.
- sessions could be 'bigger picture' such as 'Immigration to VT over the Centuries'.
- LGBTQ+ history

Timetable for proposal? Suggestions?

Elizabeth responded that she would have to budget by September of 2024 for programs to run in summer of 2025.

- Both Ilstrup and Trieschmann interested in being included in information regarding fundraising support;
- Elizabeth suggested that committee talks with young people when developing proposals;
- GIV considering bringing back the education Institute- could connect and help to prepare young people to teach history;
- Suggests keeping overall theme the same for three years, and iterate on that; Hughes asked how much other Institute's change from year-to-year? Elizabeth responded that it depended on the Institute- a little or a lot.
- Suggestion from participant Paul Deslands from UVM: "The topics and focus will be very important and lean towards using the opportunity around the commemoration to historical thinking and historical reflection among Vermont's young people".

Elizabeth asked what type of outreach and support this group would be able to provide.

Jonah shared that we are in the process of developing teacher lists and 'influencers' that have a passion regarding the subject, and that we will be convening a listening session with these educators in a few months.

No further questions or comments regarding GIV.

Jonah shared information regarding past presentation re. Angela Labrador and the Freedom & Unity Training with the VT Archeological Society. Our committee had previously discussed \$10,000 funding of the professional development. Laura she would ask the Commission for full funding for the \$13,000.

There was a motion to the sub-committee to accept funding the \$10,000 and propose to the Commission that the full \$13,000 be funded. Motion was seconded and passed.

Times and dates for listening session with educators discussed. Victoria shared information regarding 3 different calendar breaks to contend with this year and only the 1st week of April would have no educators across the state on break; made the suggestion of pushing into May, or summer. Time during the school year was decided to be 3:30-4:30.

Martha will be sending the sub-committee a resume to consider the AOE Arts Specialist as a sub-committee member; vote will be taken at March 13th meeting.

Adjourn