

**Minutes**  
**Vermont 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Commission**  
**Education Committee**  
**January 9, 2022**  
**3:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.**  
**Virtual Meeting Only**  
**Microsoft Teams meeting**

**Present**

Izzy Provoncha  
Elsa Gilbertson  
Martha Deiss  
Laura Trieschmann  
Richard Strum  
Rejoice Scherry  
Victoria Hughes  
Phil Holland  
Jonah Spivak

**Absent**

Catherine Delneo  
Stuart Lilie

Review of the December 12, 2022 minutes. Jonah wanted the statement that ‘not all slides were needed’ clarified; slides were not needed, as participant conversation/questions drove the last segment of the presentation. Martha will fix the statement and send to Laura as notes have already been shared. Martha will fix notes that are in the Teams 250<sup>th</sup> channel. Minutes accepted.

Laura shared the Commission has finalized governance on how to set up Committees; Chair will be a member of the Commission. Committees will ‘notice’ to Commission members- post minutes and agenda. If eight+ commissioners are in attendance meeting will be subject to VT meeting rules.

- Commission has established the following committees: Administration/Finance, Marketing/Public Outreach, Research/Historical, School/Teacher Outreach, Arts/Culture/Heritage
- Committees will meet more often than Commission
- Commission members won’t participate in more than 2 committees
- To add committee members, must submit resume and be approved; all current Ed. Committee members are grandfathered in
- Jonah will chair Education Committee; Martha will vice-chair.
- Beginning in Feb., a room will be added to monthly meeting invites and the public is welcome to attend if meeting is noticed.

Laura shared that status of Commissions strategic plan is on the website, including the 4 major points:

**Strategy #1:** Increase Commission capacity and productivity by utilizing resources from other states and past commemorations, leveraging external partners and subcommittees, and employing project management systems

**Strategy #2:** Increase relevance of 250th history by expanding the historical narrative to include a greater diversity of perspectives, developing programming that relates to pressing public issues, and connecting history to regional and local levels

**Strategy #3:** Enable arts and cultural heritage organization and school participation by developing a framework for participation, providing funding for 250<sup>th</sup> commemorations, and providing organizations and teachers with relevant content

**Strategy #4:** Increase partner and public awareness of 250th commemorations by developing Commission communications strategy and leveraging partners for spreading awareness

Jonah added the mention of Commission's planned outreach; Alexandria Piper shared a draft plan; plan is to do spring/summer outreach; hoping for money from Governor Scott's proposal; currently \$25,000 from a grant available for outreach

Phil inquired about next steps with teachers. Martha sent out Jonah's follow-up email. Next steps- we said that we would provide resources and listening session. Resource ideas: reading list on Native Americans, reading list in general, info from Fort T, summer webinars. Victoria asked if we should do separate listening sessions- Jonah recommended a Doodle poll to those from VASS expressing interest. Jonah asked if we can get a contact list of reenactors- Izzy mentioned it is difficult to get reenactors in schools as most have 'real' jobs during the school day, but he is working on connections.

Add to Feb agenda- listening session planning and craft message to send out to elementary school teachers. Feb 13 meeting will focus on GIV; Jonah asked, "What would it take to make it happen?" and supplied themes such as Heroes and Traitors, Underrepresented Stories, and Founders of VT