

ACTON 250TH COMMITTEE

History Subcommittee

September 13, 2024 meeting minutes

Attending: Bob Ferrara, Anne Forbes, Pamela Lynn

The meeting was called to order by Chair Pamela Lynn at 10:45 a.m. at the Blackbird Cafe. A quorum of the members was present.

Pam reported that various positions on the Memorial Library staff are presently in transition. New personnel will need to be brought up to speed on 250th matters.

Approval of past minutes

By unanimous vote, the minutes of the August 26 meeting were approved as written.

Updated Acton 250th schedule and related events:

- September 25, 7:00: Mary Fuhrer: talk on Crown Resistance Day
- October 1, Acton Memorial Library: "Colonial Books & Brews"—Acton launch of 250th Isaac Davis Ale
- " 7, A-B Schools' launch of 250th History Scavenger Hunt (Aaryan Arora)
- " 8, 7:00: Acton 250th Committee meeting (changed from 9/30)
- " 11, 10:30: History Subcommittee meeting
- " 11, 2:00: Amy Cole: walking tour of Acton Center
- " 23, 7:00: Bob Gross: talk on Acton & Concord's Roads to Revolution
- " 25: History Subcommittee meeting
- " 28, Acton 250th Committee meeting
- " 29: Pine Hawk Book Group/AML: Wm. Cronon's *Changes in the Land*
- November
- " 6: Joel Mackall, (AML) Hidden History of Black Boston
- " 8: History Subcommittee meeting
- " 9: Amy Cole: walking tour of South Acton
- " 12: Malcom Purinton (AML): talk on Taverns & the Revolution

Next Acton 250th Committee meeting:

Preparation was briefly discussed. We will give an update on our plans, and will ask about the management of upcoming *Action Unlimited* articles, and the possible use of the email list that has been gathered.

EVENTS and PROGRAMS

Beer launch events:

The Sept. 11 introduction of the **Isaac Davis Brown Ale** by Dirigible Brewing Co. at their Littleton site, which featured a muster by the Acton Minutemen, was well attended, and the molasses-based ale was judged quite good by our members. It is now canned and ready for distribution.

Next is the Acton event with the Memorial Library, "**Colonial Books and Brews**" on Oct. 1.

Mary Fuhrer talk on "Crown Resistance Day". Town Hall, Sept. 25

Bob reviewed the planned "run of show." In her introduction, Pam will summarize the local climate leading up to Crown Resistance Day, and also introduce Eagle Scout Aaryan Arora and the history scavenger hunt. The committee dinner beforehand will include Jeff Fuhrer and Steve Trimble. A related presentation to report will be Mary Beth Norton's talk at the Concord Museum on 9/19.

Bob Gross talk on 10/23, Town Hall

Bob F. will miss this. We will need to get Bob G. a set of shot glasses or similar 250 merchandise.

Schedule of future talks, articles, tours, etc.

At the Publicity Committee's request, Anne has submitted **Larry Kerpelman's two articles** to the *Action Unlimited*, hopefully to be published before the Fuhrer talk on 9/25.

The next scheduled *Action* article will be Pam's **piece on colonial taverns**, for mid-October, to precede Malcolm Purinton's 11/12 talk.

Amy Cole is scheduled to give another tour of Acton Center on Oct. 11, and one of the center of South Acton on Nov. 9. Anne will coordinate with her on the latter, which will include meeting and perhaps parking at the Iron Work Farm's Faulkner Homestead

Bob announced the following future plans:

- **Daniel Mandell** plans to visit Acton sometime prior to his 12/5 Pine Hawk talk.
- **Joel Bohy** is scheduled to speak on 1/29/25.
- **John Bell** has agreed to present another talk; date and time to be pinned down.
- **Meredith Bergman** has agreed to talk early in 2025

A **February Black History Month** program is still in flux. If we concentrate on John Oliver and his family, Anne suggested some sort of alternate format, perhaps a panel focusing on East & North Acton, and involving local researchers and Amy Cole.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Next meeting: October 11, 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Forbes