

ACTON 250TH COMMITTEE

History Subcommittee February 14, 2025 meeting MINUTES

Attending: Bob Ferrara, Anne Forbes, Bill Klauer, Pamela Lynn. Absent: Mary Price Maddox.
Also attending: Steve Trimble, Bob Pion.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Pamela Lynn at 10:00 a.m. in Room 204 of Acton Town Hall.

Approval of past minutes

The minutes of the January 31 subcommittee meeting were unanimously approved as amended.

Feb. 26th program preparations. The first part of the meeting consisted of a dry run of the upcoming slide talk to be given by Bob Pion, Bill Klauer, and Anne Forbes on Acton's early Black residents, scheduled for Feb. 26th. Bob F. and Steve T. have communicated with town staff to make sure that things are technically in order for both the in-person presentation and the YouTube recording. Pam plans to be out of town; Bob F. will give the introduction, and will talk up the plans for the 4/16 celebration.

This time the display tables will be used to sell publications from the speakers' organizations—the Acton Historical Society, the Iron Work Farm, and the Robbins House, so it was agreed not to include a display of past speakers' books. Hart Millett and Amber Klauer have volunteered to handle the money.

March 6--Meredith Bergman, sculptor: "A Sculptor Speaks for Her Statues" is next. It was agreed to invite her to a breakfast meeting for the final planning.

April 2025 scheduling update and Line of March plaque project. 250th Committee chair Steve Trimble reported on the current status of plans for the spring: the Town contract for the renovation of the Isaac Davis plow exhibit has been signed, and plans for a group of roadside plaques relating to the April 19 Line of March, etc., funded by the Isaac Davis descendants, are moving forward. Steve asked that we review the draft wording for the plaques ASAP.

A town-wide 250th celebration is now confirmed for April 16 at the Acton Congregational Church. It will include a celebration of the Minutemen, and there will probably be display tables available for organizations. Another celebration is being considered for the summer of 2026 at the Discovery Museum. Cathy Pagano, who designed our 250th logo, is taking on some of the graphics for the April publicity.

Report from the 2025 Hive, and future programming. Pam again attended this yearly event, organized by Minuteman National Park. While there she spoke to Joel Bohy about returning to give another talk in our late spring/early summer "after the bridge" phase of programming, and also to Bob Allison about a possible military-focused lecture with a similar emphasis, probably in the fall. In discussion, it was agreed to continue the 1775/2025 emphasis through this year, with Joel Bohy in June, Bob Allison in September, and another speaker in December. For June, it was suggested that we also try to get the Chelsea Creek cannon back from Groton to display. For March 2026, something might be scheduled in connection with the anniversary of Evacuation Day.

Other future ideas. Bill raised the idea of doing something with music of the 1775 period, possibly for the celebration on 4/16. He would like to find the music of Lucius Hosmer, which should be relevant; also to coordinate something with the West Concord Union Church.

Updated 250th meeting and event schedulen

At Pam's suggestion, it was agreed to move the subcommittee meetings away from Fridays when needed. Two upcoming meetings were set for Thursdays.

2025	February	24:	250 th committee meeting
	"	26:	Volunteer program: "Snapshot of Acton's Early Black Residents"
	"	27:	10:30: 250 th subcommittee meeting
	March	6:	Meredith Bergman lecture: "A Sculptor Speaks for her Statues"
	"	13:	Isaac Davis Brown Ale: Second big release party. Dirigible Brewing Co.
	"	14:	10:30: 250 th subcommittee meeting
	"	22:	Amy Cole: South Acton walking tour
	"	25:	Council on Aging dinner event
	"	31:	John Bell lecture: "Spies and Military Intelligence"
	April	5:	Amy Cole: South Acton walking tour
	"	16:	250 th local celebration, ACC
	"	17:	Visit by Willard/Davis family reunion
	"	18:	Acton Minutemen: North Bridge march and "Robbins Ride"

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Next meetings: February 27 and March 14.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Forbes