

Meeting Minutes America 250 Committee 1st meeting

July 21, 2025 @ 6:30 PM

Next Meeting - Monday August 18, @6:30 PM

1. **Committee Attendees:** Kristin Warner (Supervisor), Joyce Snyder (Supervisor), Michon Blake (OSPAC) Katie Cleary (Events), and Nancy Becker (PC) (by phone)

Absent: Francine Gausch (Citizen) Additional: Michael Lewis (Veterans)

Guests: Historians Victor and Brian Hagey
2. a) Victor Verbeke (Lower Salford) and Brian Hagey (Towamencin) recapped their efforts to research and document the activities of our American Revolutionary Troops under General George Washington's Leadership during their encampment in our Township on Wambold Farm for approximately 2 weeks in October 1777).

b) They described their process of applying to The Pa State Historic Commission for a marker recognition of this historic event. They were able to justify this encampment as significant when they uncovered a letter from Washington sent to Congress from the Wambold Farm in which the great General used the terminology "The Grand American Army" for the first time according to their extensive research. The Marker approval was announced in June 2025.

C) They explained their request to the Towamencin Board of Supervisors to vote to assume responsibility for the Marker once it is physically received. Joyce and Kristin confirmed that the transfer of responsibility would occur (and subsequently has) at the BOS Meeting held July, 23rd at 7PM.

d) Victor shared his experience meeting a board member of the Sons of the American Revolution whose wife grew up in our area. She attended Lansdale Catholic HS and they married at St Stans. Victor believes that he and possibly other SAR higher ups may be interested in participating in our program during the confirmed date of June 25, 2026 "250th Kickoff party" Victor will share the date and handle follow up and confirmation of SAR participation.

e) With or without SAR involvement both Victor and Brian would like to participate in our event. All at the meeting agreed that sharing their story and presenting a synopsis of the incredible events they uncovered with the night's attendees would spread knowledge and excitement for this momentous history. Sharing the story will boost attendance at the marker placement and at the very least awareness of this history.
3. Joyce attempted to motion for nominations for Chair of the committee. Attendance was low, therefore it was decided to try again at the August meeting. The committee agreed more committee / helpers will be needed for a successful event.

4. Recap / continuation of event details and ideas:

- a) The committee agreed it would be helpful to join forces w/ Molly Jobson, director of Morgan Log House. Molly will be invited to attend future meetings.

Molly's suggestions from meeting with Kristin and Joyce (July 11. 4:30 PM) are as follows:

1. Print historical map of Township to create a large display and possible handouts (Molly has rapport w/ North Penn Printers)
2. Molly will reach out to a possible Betsy Ross, General Nash & George and Martha Washington as well as a blacksmith, colonial era cook demonstrator.
3. Other stations could be medicinal herb gardening and Farm to Fashion
4. Molly also suggested a proclamation reading of the Declaration of Independence at the event by one dressed in colonial attire
5. As for children's activities: Molly shared knowledge of a girl injured while playing the stick and wheel rim roll. She proposed the following games / activities instead:
 - a) dress in colonial attire relay races
 - b) cup and ball
 - c) shut the box (a dice game)
 - e) Corn hole (possibly w/ founding father's faces)
 - f) potato stamps can create the cuts in advance
 - g) corn husk dolls
 - h) write notes to military

- b) Katie received a reply from the leader of the Montco Band and cost = \$1000.00

- c) Katie heard back from her inquiry as to Shuttle buses (see attached)

- d) Michon knows a Stilt Walker who dresses as various historical characters.

The committee agreed that Uncle Sam would be a good choice.

- e) Kristin will reach out to Steve McMasters (assistant lead of PW) to ask for an estimate or at least a guestimate of ability and cost for lighting at least part of Fisher's park trees and the foot bridge. Predominantly white lights (possibly with red & blue mixed in / or tree spots) in Fisher's The lighting if done would be activated at the June 25 event and on a timer - (at least) the July 4th weekend. Possibly extended through end of July depending on PW schedules and cost.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristin Warner (Supervisor)