

Committee Meeting minutes, America 250 Clinton, CT

December 11, 2025

Present: Nancy Meinke, Chair, Judith Danek, David Levasseur, Christy Pontillo, Laraine Scherban, Mary Young Others Present: Lisa Wheeler

Nancy welcomed members and guests and convened the meeting at 6:00 PM. Meeting minutes from November 6, 2025 were approved as presented.

Nancy commented on activities since the last meeting. She met with Michelle Benivegna, Clinton Town Manager, and confirmed that committee members have been reappointed by the Town, and voting members are asked to go to the Town Hall to be sworn in for the 2026 session. She and Michelle reviewed committee activities to date, confirmed presentation of the A250 Committee proclamation at the January 2026 Town Council meeting, and the status of the \$5,000 funding for future use.

Finance Committee: Mike Rush, excused, No Report.

Education: Laraine confirmed that activities are being confirmed and the exact date for the K-12 Arts Exhibition in the Spring of 2026 has not been determined. After discussion, members agreed with Laraine's recommendation for the student and faculty Declaration of Independence signing activity and the scrolls will not be used in the schools although they can be used at other events.

History: David shared details about the recent lecture at the Killingworth Historical Society, as part of the series in a joint effort of the Clinton and Killingworth Historical Societies. He noted a robust attendance, and the lecture was taped and recorded on DVDs for later viewing.

Mary Young presented initial project work related to the Daughters of the American Revolution and their work to honor Revolutionary War veterans and patriots by placing a bronze insignia at or near cemeteries to commemorate the nation's 250th anniversary, educating communities and preserving history for future generations. She reviewed the newer program funded by the Pomeroy Foundation specifically for the 250 th anniversary. She presented initial concepts for the plaque, placement and more. A subcommittee will convene to determine the next steps (report appended to these minutes).

Publicity and Marketing: Nancy drafted an article (Person of the Month) for the Harbor News with a publication date of January 8, 2026.

A discussion about fundraising activities and formalizing this work followed. Additional discussion was deferred until January.

New Business: 2026 Meeting schedule - After discussion, it was agreed to schedule 2026 committee meetings on the first Tuesday of the month (3 rd Tuesday, snow date as needed).

Dana Horigan submitted the following: Dana has self appointed herself Community Engagement officer. She has reached out to business and organizations tp participate independently from events put on by our committee. She has received interest from Cindy Stevens, Fringe and Grand Apizza. Dana has also contacted Bare Necessities for the Ducky Dip, Clinton Go, for a historic scavenger hunt.

Old Business: Nancy discussed the partnership between the committee and the dockmaster related to the A250 themed boat parade in August 2026. She reviewed progress to date on the social event scheduled for early August, which will include a cocktail reception, catering by the Adam Stanton House, entertainment and a signing of the replica Declaration of Independence by all attendees. A subcommittee for this event will convene in January 2026.

Next meeting date is January 6, 6:00 PM, Henry Carter Hull Library.

With no other business before the committee, it was adjourned at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Judith Danek