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Office of the Town Clerk
Coventry, CT

America: 250 Coventry CT Committee

Regular Meeting

February 24, 2026

Town Hall Annex

1. Roll Call/Call to Order
 - a. John Holmy called the meeting to order at 6:38. Emily Kennedy, Jacob Orcutt, Mary Ann Hansen, Jim Murphy and Jim Holmy were present. Anne Marie Charland and Torrie Phillips were not present. Ruth O'Neil arrived late at 7:14.
2. Audience of Citizens
 - a. None
3. Secretary's Report
 - a. Review of previous minutes.
 - b. Motion to accept minutes by Mary Ann Hansen seconded by Jim Murphy. Passed unanimously.
4. Old Business
 - a. Christmas in the Village and Lion's Club Christmas Tree
 - b. Letters from Prince William were posted to the America 250 facebook page.
 - c. Letters being sent to the embassy/consulate in Washington DC and Boston, no response
 - d. Booth and Dimmock Library Clock repair (no update since last meeting)
 - e. Jim Murphy will reach out to a different George Washington impersonator.
5. New Business
 - a. John's meeting
 - i. Paper Boat Float to try and happen at Depot Road. John is planning sometime in May.
 1. Follow up and can have more people than 10 in water at a time.
 - b. The historical society on March 19th is doing the "stew and story" presentation about the Mills. It will be repeated on April 8th at the senior center.
 - c. John is meeting with the Booth and Dimmock Library
 - i. John will be doing a program with the teen librarian on June 25th.

- ii. Ruth will be doing a musical program in the summer as well.
- d. "Pub crawl" and tax collection with houses in town that used to be taverns. (June Patriots)
 - i. John will ask homeowners if we can go to/in the houses.
 - ii. John will also reach out Bidwell Tavern for culminating get together
- e. April 19th "Shout Heard Around the Town" at Strong-Porter House
- f. The former town manager suggested highlighting the original Coventry settlers/families.
 - i. Further highlighting various Coventry community members. Longest married couple, oldest person etc.
- g. Farmers Market have themes already
 - i. We can probably overlap with established themes/with Hale Homestead
 - 1. Coventry Day is in August, potential to highlight 250th
 - ii. Radio update with WTIC from Ruth
 - 1. Potential for interview/presence on the radio
- h. Schools
 - i. Letter Contest- what does america mean to you? (Due May 21)
 - ii. Kid Governor Running in 2026 again at GHR
 - iii. Program Patriotic musical selections throughout the 26-27 year (schools are already programming)
 - iv. America through the decades spirit week 6-12 (Fall 2025/2026)
 - v. Historic Get out and play day-CGS/GHR?
 - vi. Social studies lesson- Torrie/Emily shared curriculum with Social Studies Faculty
 - vii. Advisory on america 250/veterans day 6-12
 - viii. Morning Show historical facts regarding America 250- students research and highlight US history fact during broadcasted show
 - ix. Student speakers regarding 250th anniversary during CNH veterans assembly November 2026
 - x. Students creating patriotic art to be displayed- k-12 (Possibly for district art show)

- xi. Send out a student form to create a playlist for the fireworks (summer 2026)
- xii. Google Form asking students what their patriotic songs are (send out before summer of 2026).
- i. Arts on Main in August
 - i. America 250 will host a small walk/talk tour of millbrook park or something similar. Featuring the signs
 - j. Rev War music program maybe at a market or on the radio?
 - k. Plant a 250 tree in town somewhere? In conversation with Public Works.
 - i. Potentially an Oak
 - l. Coventry Fireworks on June 27th
 - i. Small kids parade before parade? Lions club has American Flags for students.
 - m. Community Mosaic utilizing tiles.
 - n. Signs acknowledging old houses/houses that want to celebrate 250th.
 - o. Anne Marie will share Nathan Hale Homestead calendar at the next meeting.
 - p. Some members interested in attending the America 250 conference at Central CT State University. (March 20-21).
- 6. Adjournment
 - a. Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 by Jacob Orcutt seconded by Jim Murphy. Unanimously passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Emily Kennedy