

Franklin 250th Commission

Minutes

March 7, 2024

Present: Matt Novosad, Judy Novosad, Chris Schultz Calli Carboni, Craig (BSA), Anne Staebner

Phone: Tom Ford

Meeting was called to order at 6:15 by president M. Novosad.

A. Staebner read the secretary's minutes. A. Staebner made a motion was to accept the minutes. C. Schultz seconded it. Passed.

J. Novosad made a motion for A. Staebner to be the secretary. C. Carboni seconded it. Passed.

Open Discussion: M. Novosad looked up the 1777 tax list in Franklin/West Farms to find town history.

J. Novosad and C. Schultz will be talking to different groups to participate in America 250 in Franklin. This celebration will peak in 2026 and hopefully will go beyond. It will include discussions, activities, and a collaboration of groups for a large event on July 4, 2026. It was commented that if we start too early, people will be overwhelmed and fatigued for the big event. In 1975-1976 Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts had many activities.

One suggestion from the town is to paint murals on the outside old fire house doors at the town hall. A suggestion was finding Franklin resident at NFA for the artist. C. Carboni will be in charge of this town project. The mural should be broader than America 250. There are grant funds for artists.

Franklin Historical Committee and Ashbel Woodward Museum will be making an exhibit on Franklin's involvement in the Revolutionary War.

J. Novosad added an idea to Blue Slope Country Museum's square dances to add cotillion dance and 1770 dances. The dances can be complicated. The museum is still thinking about activities to do during this time.

Tom suggested an accumulation list of activities. School children could do creative and historic writings and posters. They will need background information. Another suggestion could be children who live in old houses and how the land, farms, and houses have changed. The Revolutionary period from 1765 to 1780's was a transition and development time with social, economic, and political changes.

J. Novosad made a suggestion for two panel maps in the cemetery similar to Norwich. There could be grant money for that project.

There was a small discussion on Justices of the Peace and the American Revolutionary.

C. Carboni made a motion to adjourn. C. Schultz seconded it.

Adjourn 7:11

Next meeting May 2, 2024, Thursday at 6:15.

Respectfully submitted,

Anne Staebner