

Ridgefield Commemorates America at 250 (RCA250)
Meeting Minutes
February 19, 2025, 8 am – Town Hall Annex

The virtual meeting was called to order at 8:00 am

In attendance: Co-chair Geoffrey Morris; members Renee Brown-Cheng, James Carone (Treasurer), Sara Champion, Louzette Dovaras, Elizabeth Ellis (Secretary), Dawn Fawcett, Stephanie Heering, Deborah Rundlett

Absent: Pamme Jones

Guest: Hildi Grob

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Geoffrey Morris motioned, and Deb Rundlett seconded, approval of the January 15, 2025 meeting minutes. Approved.

Website Presentation

Renee Brown-Cheng received confirmation that our website is ADA compliant. The site's historic event timeline has been revamped to read better on a mobile device. Google Analytics have been added, and maps denoting town parking are coming.

The site is live: <https://ridgefieldct250.org>

Renee will create a second user as backup.

Fundraising

Geoffrey, Hildi, and Liz will again get together to organize approaching potential large donors once spring arrives as many candidates are away during the winter months, and our initial round had a very slow response rate. Geoffrey has created a brochure specific to this group in order to pinpoint our goals. He has approached Pepsi, Fairfield County Bank, and Chefs' Warehouse as well. Fundraising to the general public will begin in May 2025. Stephanie Heering and Pamme Jones will explore how to acknowledge sponsors and donors.

Social Media

With 89 followers to date, Stephanie will ask Pamme to then ask the Ridgefield Arts Council to have the various arts groups' members follow us.
(@ridgefieldct250)

Merchandise

Geoffrey will create a mockup T-shirt.

Financial Report

Jim reports receipt of a new \$5,000 donation, and the Committee receives a monthly stipend from the Town's original \$10,000 commitment. Current expenses have been for the logo designer and the new large donor brochure.

New Business

Sara Champion motioned, and Debbie Rundlett seconded, a motion to allocate \$2,000 to secure a Fife and Drum Corp for July 4, 2025 at Keeler Tavern Museum & History Center. The motion carried unanimously.

Geoffrey continues to pursue pricing for Museum in the Streets' tops replacements and the creation of new ones.

Dawn reminded the Committee about a Contra Dance in Redding, CT on Friday, February 28
<https://thegranitechurch.org/event/community-contra-dance-feb28/>

• Next Meeting: March 19, 2025, 8 am, Town Hall Annex

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 am

Respectfully submitted,
Elizabeth Ellis