



COMMEMORATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Boston City Hall Boston, MA, 02201

Held virtually via Zoom

JULY 24, 2025

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Amanda Zettel, Bob Allison, Rep. Dan Ryan, David Leonard, Jean-Luc Pierite, Joan Ilacqua, Joe Bagley, Kanisorn Wongsrichanalai, Karin Goodfellow, Kathy Kottaridis, Lydia Lowe, Margaret Dyson, Nat Sheidley, Suzanne Taylor, Sam Tully-Chambers, Kyera Singleton, Julian Viviescas for Council President Ruthzee Louijeune

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Senator Mike Rush, Juan Lopez, Juan Eusebio, Jay Ash, Kimberly Barzola, Cedric Woods, Collin Knight, Dave O'Donnell, Carolyn Goldstein, Kristen Lafferty, Giordana Mecagni, Noelle Trent, Faries Gray, Tatiana M.F. Cruz, Kenzie Bok

STAFF PRESENT: Genesis Pimentel, Commemoration Commission Manager; Robert Santiago, Veteran Services Commissioner; Chelsea Blanchard, BLC Staff Architect

A full recording of the meeting is available on boston.gov/commemoration-commission

SESSION BEGINS - 2:00 PM

I. WELCOME

- a. Chairs Amanda Zettel and Jean-Luc Pierite welcomed attendees.

II. ORDER OF BUSINESS

- a. Approval of meeting minutes will be held off until the next meeting.
- b. Subcommittees gave updates:
 - i. Legislation and Preservation Tools discussed their conversations around identifying cultural and heritage preservation tools in City programs that can be analyzed and strengthened.
 - ii. Timelines, Archives, and Curricula discussed their conversations with BPS around curricular support and gave an update on how their platform to index archival institutions is going.
 - iii. Events, Exhibits, and Trails discussed their meetings with the Boston Women's Heritage Trail and the North End Black Heritage Trail.

III. CHARLESTOWN 250 / BUNKER HILL 250 REVIEW

- a. Chair Amanda Zettel presented on the Bunker Hill 250 commemoration efforts where she shared successes, challenges, and outcomes from the events that



spanned April to June and included about 40 organizations. She also shared a video that promoted the effort and the events.

IV. 6 MONTH REPORT

- a. Genesis Pimentel reviewed the 6 month report. This 6 month report included a draft of interim recommendations for 250th commemorations that the advisory committees had worked on in their meetings. Approval was held off due to feedback to edit the recommendations.

V. PARTNER PRESENTATION - SIEGE OF BOSTON

- a. Dusty Rhodes, Jonathan Lane, and Bob Allison gave a presentation on the Knox Trail that is gearing up for 2026. They explained the history of Evacuation Day including the British victory at Fort Ticonderoga and what led up to the Siege of Boston. They discussed the creation of the trail, the stops on the trail, and the activations for commemoration.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. There were no public comments.

VII. ADJOURNMENT - 3:30 PM

- a. The meeting adjourned at 3:30 P.M.

Documents Presented: 6 Month Report with Interim Recommendations, Bunker Hill 250 slideshow, Bunker Hill 250 video, Siege of Boston and Knox Trail slideshow