

**MINUTES**  
**TEXAS AMERICA250 COMMISSION**  
**Bullock Texas State History Museum**  
**1800 N. Congress, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Boardroom**  
**Austin, Texas 78701**  
**March 13, 2025**  
**2:00 PM**  
**VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING**

The Texas America250 Commission convened with the following designated Members of Commission Agencies in attendance: Margaret Koch, Presiding Chair, Bullock Texas State History Museum, and Rodney Franklin, Director of Parks, Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Pat Hardy, State Board of Education, Jelain Chubb, State Archivist & Director, Texas State Library and Archives Commission, and Lynn Young, America250 Representative. Tim Fennel, Director, Travel Texas Economic Development and Tourism, Governor's Office joined the call late.

**I. Call to Order and Establishment of a Quorum, Introductions**

Margaret Koch, serving as the Commission's presiding chair, called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm and called roll. A quorum was established.

Chair Koch called on the Advisory Panel to introduce themselves. Advisors present: Ellen Cone Busch, Emily Hermans, Texas Historical Commission; Andrew Ross, Humanities Texas; Christine Jacobs, National Park Service; Monte Monroe, State Historian; Nathan Jones, The Alamo Trust; Fidel Santos, Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez; Lisa Berg, Texas Historical Association; James Harkins, General Land Office; Nancy Foster, Museum of Western Art; Jeff Salmon, Frontier Texas; Kevin Kanter, Texas Sons of the American Revolution (Texas SAR); Nancy Davis, Texas Daughters of the American Revolution (Texas DAR) America250 Committee; Jeremy Davis, Museum of North Texas; Bob ward, Camino Real de los Tejas; Angela Woellner, Texas Veteran's Commission

Additional attendees included: Steven McFarland, Harrison County Texas America250; Mark Ellison, TXSAR

**II. Discussion and Possible Action on Approval of Minutes from Previous Meetings**

Chair Koch called for a motion to approve the minutes of the last Commission meeting held on February 13, 2025, as presented. Pat Hardy so moved and Lynn Young offered a second. The motion carried and the minutes of the previous meetings were adopted.

### **III. Discussion/Possible Action regarding establishment of Commission Sub-committees that correspond with Commission Goals**

Formed from our advisory panel, sub-committees were established to effectively execute the Commission's five key goals:

- **Enhance civic knowledge of the founding principles of the country and the rights to life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.**

Pat Hardy, State Board of Education; Jelain Chubb, State Archivist & Director, Texas State Library and Archives Commission; Lisa Berg, Texas Historical Association; Christine Jacobs, National Park Service

- **Encourage Texans to unite in commemorating the Semiquincentennial.**

Steven McFarland, Harrison County TexasAmerica250 Commission; Lynn Young, America250 Representative; Pat Hardy, State Board of Education

Advisors suggested outreach to U.S. Mayors, Rotary Clubs, Texas Municipal League, and The League of Women Voters in Texas

- **Promote scholarship and research that illuminates the history of the American West and Texas' role in the formation of the nation.**

Bob Ward, Camino Real de Los Tejas; Jelain Chubb, State Archivist & Director, Texas State Library and Archives Commission; Monte Monroe, State Historian; Nathan Jones, The Alamo Trust

- **Recognize the service and sacrifices of veterans and their families, who have protected our liberties and independence for future generations.**

Angela Woellner, Texas Veteran's Commission; Kevin Kanter, Texas SAR; Nancy Davis, Texas DAR; Steven McFarland, Harrison County TexasAmerica250 Commission

- **Collect, track, and share information about Texas events and activities planned for the 250th, and assess and report to the state on their impact.**

Each committee will determine its meeting schedule, identify necessary tasks to meet goals, and develop methods to measure success. Additionally, analytics will be evaluated on the TXAM250 website to track engagement.

### **IV. Consideration of the Following Agenda Items:**

#### **Item 1. Report on licensing agreement requests**

Logo licensing requests are being accepted, with forms available on the website. To date, three agreements have been fully executed with a total of six requests submitted.

**Item 2. Request to Commissioners and Advisors to publicize America’s Field Trip Contest for 3<sup>rd</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades**

Chair Koch encouraged commissioners and advisors to publicize America’s Field Trip, a contest where students have the opportunity to win field trips to historic landmarks by submitting projects that share their perspectives on what America means to them. Submissions are open until April 16, 2025. Texas is represented with a trip option to The Alamo and LBJ Presidential Library.

**Item 3. Report on Outreach to Legislative Offices**

Commemorative TXAM250 pins and introductory letters are ready to be pinned together for delivery to legislators and America250 Congressional Caucus. The potential of 3D printed keepsakes is being investigated.

**Item 4. Request to Commissioners and Advisors to participate in Two Lights for Tomorrow and submit events for the Commission’s calendar and quarterly newsletter**

Commissioners are reaching out to Rep. Will Metfalf and Sen. Lois Kolkhorst to sponsor a Lights for Tomorrow lighting event. All advisors are encouraged to participate in this initiative with their organizations. Additionally, quarterly newsletter content and event submissions for the website calendar are welcome.

**V. Public Comment**

Mark Ellison, representing Texas Sons of the American Revolution (Texas SAR), provided comment on SAR initiatives. The Texas SAR plans to commemorate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary with a monument dedicated to Texas Patriots of the Revolution at the State Cemetery. In collaboration with the Texas Daughters of the American Revolution and the Texas Society Children of the American Revolution, Texas SAR is coordinating the recognition of presidential libraries whose namesakes are descendants of Revolutionary War veterans. Texas SAR also plans to induct Governor Abbott into the Sons of the American Revolution.

**VI. Adjournment**

Next meeting is currently scheduled for April 10, 2025 at 11am.

With no further business, the Chair requested a motion to adjourn. Jelain Chubb made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Pat Hardy seconded, and the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:03 p.m.