

**America 250 Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
October 14, 2025**

**Attendees:**

<b><u>Committee</u></b>	<b><u>Town Staff</u></b>	<b><u>Public</u></b>
Mary Lou Barmby Nancy Evans Kitty O'Hara (Excused) Meghan Palazzo Faye West	Gene Dvornick	

**Call to Order:**

The Meeting was called to order at 3:40 PM

**Approval of September 23, 2025 Minutes:**

***Motion: Mary Lou Barmby; Second: Nancy Evans to approve the minutes – Motion Carried (unanimous)***

**Discussion of Potential Events and Activities:**

Gene Dvornick apologized for not having a virtual option for the meeting.

Gene Dvornick reported that the 250th birthday of the Navy was posted on the Town's Electronic Message Board (Monday, October 13)

There was a summary of follow up items from the September 23 meeting distributed and discussed – items included:

- Old Courthouse
- Military Service Birthdays
- Artisan Market
- Sea Witch Indoor & Outdoor Artisan Vendors
- Declaration of Independence reading
- Crosswalk paintings
- Fire hydrant painting
- Other considerations

There was some discussion on the cost and effort that goes into various types of events.

One suggestion was to create a master list of dates and events so we can keep track of items.

The committee discussed additional ideas/suggestions for events (see below).

# America 250 Committee

## Meeting Minutes

### October 14, 2025

#### September 23 Meeting Ideas

- Encourage the General Assembly to grant Return Day 2026 (Thursday, November 5, 2026, as a full day State Holiday. *Note: Per the Delaware Department of Human Resources, Return Day is listed as a holiday “After 12 noon for State employees living and/or working in Sussex County.”*
- Reading of the Declaration of Independence on The Circle (morning, noon, afternoon)
- Commemoration parade
- Concert
- Fireworks
- Mural
- Patriotic music on The Circle
- Display the WPA painting from Georgetown High School (Georgetown Historical Society)
- Leverage events with Ken Adams – concert, fireworks, other at Georgetown Speedway
- Recognize service branch birthdays
- Old time artisans (candle makers, leather craft, etc.) display and sales
- Scavenger hunt
- Red, white, and blue plantings (planters around Town)
- Coordination with other organizations
  - Boy Scouts (Troop 95)
  - Franklin Masonic Lodge (East Market Street)
  - Daughters of the American Revolution
  - Georgetown Historical Society
  - Historic Georgetown Association

#### New Ideas

- Invite participation from African American community
- Invite participation from indigenous community
- Photo opportunity with Ben Franklin
- Mural locations:
  - FSCAA Building
  - Cherry Alley
- Scarecrows event patriotic themed
- Downtown flower vases – patriotic wrap or bunting
- Flags of the 13 colonies on The Circle
- Streetlight pole banners
- Distribution of Common Sense
- Significant dates:
  - July 4<sup>th</sup> – reading of the Declaration of Independence
  - January 10, 1776 – publication of Thomas Paine’s *Common Sense*
  - June 15, 2025 – Separation Day (3 Delaware counties from Pennsylvania)
  - September 21, 1776 – Delaware ratification of the Declaration of Independence
  - July 29, 1776 – Reading of the Declaration of Independence in Dover
  - June 14<sup>th</sup> – Flag Day
- Thomas Rodney (Ceasar Rodney’s brother) *Revolution Essay*
- Themed Scavenger Hunt prizes – feather pen, coin, etc.
- March Children’s Art Show theme
- Fire hydrant painting (The Circle)
- Crosswalk Painting (The Circle)

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**Schedule Next Meeting:**

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 28, 2025, at 3:30 PM

**Public Comment:**

There was no other public comment.

**Adjourn:**

*Motion: Meghan Palazzo; Second: Mary Lou Barmby to adjourn at 5:09 PM – Motion Carried (unanimous)*