



MINUTES: Chester County A250PA Commission Monthly Meeting
Hybrid – Chester County Government Services Center, Room 351E

June 4, 2026

MEMBERS PRESENT IN PERSON: MarySue Boyle, Fernando Fonseca, Susan Hamley, Colin Hanna, Mark Slouf

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA ZOOM: Sam Bissenbina, Jane Dorchester, Jennifer Green, Larycia Hawkins, Michelle Kichline, MaryFrances McGarrity, Winifred Moran Sebastian, John Reynolds, Krys Sipple

COMMUNITY PARTNERS PRESENT IN PERSON: Dave Stauffer

COMMUNITY PARTNERS PRESENT VIA ZOOM: April Nickel, Karen Simmons

CCPC STAFF PRESENT IN PERSON: Matt Edmond, Carol Stauffer, Bronwen Barnett, Gene Huller

CCPC STAFF PRESENT VIA ZOOM: Beth Cunliffe

VISITORS PRESENT IN PERSON: None

VISITORS PRESENT VIA ZOOM: Brandi Levine

CALL TO ORDER:

The regular monthly meeting of the Chester County A250PA Commission held in person at the Chester County Government Services Center and via Zoom audio/video on Thursday, June 4th, 2026, was called to order at 4:06 P.M. by Michelle Kichline, Chair.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

CONSENT AGENDA:

A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA WAS MADE BY MARYFRANCES MCGARRITY, SECONDED BY SUSAN HAMLEY, AND PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE COMMISSION.

THE CONSENT AGENDA INCLUDED: APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR MAY 7, 2026, MEETING OF THE CHESTER COUNTY A250PA COMMISSION.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

- Matt Edmond presented a snapshot of the America250 Chester County Commission Charitable Fund (CC250) showing donations and authorized expenditures to date.

- Matt reviewed the financial report, tracking budget allocations and expenditures across different funds.
 - One new donation was recently received in the amount of \$2026.00.
- Expenses paid include the printing of Pocket Declarations, the production of the CC250 flags and wrapping materials, the promotional materials from Blue Dog, boosted Facebook posts and 3 x 3 contact cards.
- An additional 600 units of the 3 x 3 contact cards will be printed for distribution at the Brandywine Symphony event on June 25th.

A RECOMMENDATION TO ACCEPT THE FINANCIAL REPORT WAS MADE BY COLIN HANNA, SECONDED BY MARY SUE BOYLE, AND THE RECOMMENDATION PASSED.

COMMITTEE REPORTS, PLANS & BUDGETS

Heritage Sites Committee – Mark Slouf

- Duportail House, Brandywine Battlefield and Thornbury Farms are currently fundraising to prepare their sites for kiosk installation.
- Oxford Area Historical Association has a current extensive agricultural exhibit.

Education Committee – no report from the Committee.

Marketing and Communication Committee – Jane Dorchester

- Social media boosts have begun for selected events and Jane reported on the statistics and costs for three boosted posts – Kennett Memorial Day parade, Malvern Memorial Day parade and Paoli Battlefield event.
- SWAG continues to be distributed into the community.
- Daily Local News will be covering the Goshen events this coming weekend.

Fundraising Committee – Winifred Moran Sebastian

- No update from the Committee.

Partnerships Committee – Randell Spackman

- Randell was not in attendance but Brandi Levine was present on zoom and reported that she did not have any update on details for the state's PA Day in July.
- Brandi will reach out to the organizers about Chester County's involvement for this year, specifically how CC250 could contribute.
- Karen Simmons remarked that the CC Food Bank was on the host opportunity list for a fundraising event. All registrations, however, need to go through PA250. She has a list of PA Day events and will share with Committee by email.
- Downingtown has requested us to promote their events and programs featuring the 250th. This will be relayed to David Blackburn.

Events Committee –Colin Hanna

- Events Committee is being considered a sub-committee of the MarCom Committee.
- Commissioner Maxwell, committee chair, is focusing on an event in the West Chester area. A zoom meeting is scheduled for Monday, June 8th.

- A discussion ensued on the promotion of the CC250 events through Daily Local News, VISTA.TODAY, County Lines, sharing the QR code for our website, etc.

Technology Committee –Sam Bissenbina

- June articles and newsletters will be out soon.
- “An American Dream,” commissioned by the Brandywine Valley Symphony, will be placed on the home page front and center once it is ready to be made public.

Executive Committee – MaryFrances McGarrity

- We presented the CC250 flag at the May Commissioner’s meeting
- At the Executive Committee meeting on May 21st, various topics were discussed, including approving the mockups for 3 x 3 contact card.

A250PA CHESTER COUNTY (CC250) BUSINESS

- Matt Edmond presented the social media stats for May 2026.
- Michelle Kichline suggested sending all the township managers the link to the events page on our website.
- Matt Edmond presented on the six upcoming Flag Publicity events; Oxford Borough on 6/5, North Coventry Township on 6/8, Tredyffrin Township on 6/15, Valley Township on 6/16, Kennett Square Borough on 6/18 and Pocopson Township / Barnard Stations on 6/21.

PARTNER WORK UPDATES

Chester County Planning Commission

- Flag Distribution Policy:
 - o Matt reviewed the recipients of the first 113 of the CC250 flags. Of the remaining 37 flags, the Commission approved gifting the remaining flags to High Schools, Universities and libraries in Chester County.
 - o In addition, three will be gifted to historical sites (Schuylkill River, Marshallton and OAHA), one will be gifted to Longwood Gardens, and three will be reserved for purchase at cost by CCCBI, CC Econ Dev Council as well as State Rep. John Lawrence.
 - o April Nickel will canvas the libraries and provide a list of those interested in receiving a flag.
 - o CCPC staff will create a recipient list from the above and send for review by the officers.

MICHELLE KICHLINE CALLED FOR A VOTE FOR RECOMMENDATION FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF THE REMAINING 37 AMERICAN250PA CC FLAGS TO HIGH SCHOOLS, UNIVERSITIES, INTERESTED LIBRARIES AND LONGWOOD GARDENS. WINIFRED MORAN SEBASTIAN SECONDED, AND THE RECOMMENDATION PASSED.

- o The Commission would like to use flags for fundraising premiums and discussed ordering 3 x 5 residential flags that donors would receive at a certain level of donation.

- o Suggestions for communicating the availability of these flags are CC250 Social media, Chester County employee portals/newsletters and the websites and newsletters of the various Chambers of Chester County.

JANE DORCHESTER CALLED FOR A VOTE FOR RECOMMENDATION FOR THE ORDERING OF 100 RESIDENTIAL 3 X 5 FLAGS TO SERVE AS PREMIUMS FOR FUNDRAISING, WITH A DONATION AMOUNT TO BE DECIDED. MARY SUE BOYLE SECONDED, AND THE RECOMMENDATION PASSED.

- Kiosks – Marshallton & Phoenixville upgrades
 - o We are moving forward with contracts with Miller Design to make upgrades, hoping for completion this summer.
- Kiosk – Phase 1 Project
 - o The bid scope for Kiosk installation has been provided to County procurement and we are awaiting an update on its inclusion into Costars.
- HIN Brochure Design
 - o Mark Slouf reported that the project has been rescheduled for this coming fall with the goal of working with Cliff Parker in Archives to coordinate the brochure design to align with the travelling exhibit.

Community Partners

- Chester County Community Foundation – Karen Simmons
 - o No update at this time.
- Chester County Tourism – Susan Hamley
 - o Welcome Center programming display is changing over to Chester County history.
- Chester County History Center (CCHC) – Conor Hepp
 - o No update as Conor was not in attendance.
- Chester County Parks Department - Dave Stauffer
 - o CC250 Flags are being flown at the four County parks: Warwick, Springton Manor, Hibernia and Nottingham.
 - o The department hosted a Woven History Town Tour walk on May 1st. The Woven History exhibit remains on display at Hibernia Mansion and tours are conducted on Sunday's at 1 p.m.
 - o Ranger Jay Erb is working on a We the People event on July 12 at Hibernia County Park.
- Keep Chester County Beautiful (KCCB) – Matt Edmond for Rachael Griffith
 - o The Woven Mural project will be displayed at Hankin Library in late June and Exton Library in September. Signage will direct folks to the KCCB Campaign Website and encourage adoption of a road or historic site.
 - o Greatest American Clean Up campaign is working with Adam Desch to coordinate with Commissioner Maxwell's office and his interns to conduct outreach to businesses in areas with priority roads in need of clean up.
- Chester County Library System – April Nickel
 - o April Nickel reported that 119 programs at the 18 members libraries are occurring now and until September that are focused on CC250.

- o Karen Simmons reported on Natalie Caruso of Downingtown, who is visiting all the library bells and PA bells. She creates maps and other content on these bells and is being profiled on social and other media for her efforts.

NEW BUSINESS

- Matt Edward reported on the following:
 - o The next Commissioner's Meeting is now scheduled for June 17th. Kris Sipple will present on CC250 projects and other updates, and Mark Slouf will be following up with a few words on the HIN.
 - o Commission and Committees should begin focusing on 2027 events and initiatives starting in August.
 - o Budget requests from the Committees must be presented, discussed and approved during the July 9th CC250 meeting so that they can be rolled up into the CCPC Budget request to the County.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, A MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 5:49 PM WAS MADE BY SUSAN HAMLEY, SECONDED BY MARY SUE BOYLE, AND PASSED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE OF THE COMMISSION.

Respectfully submitted,



MaryFrances McGarrity, Secretary
Chester County A250PA Commission

MM/brb