

**TENNESSEE COMMISSION FOR THE UNITED STATES SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL  
COMMISSION**

**Microsoft Teams Video Conference  
And In-Person  
Nashville, Tennessee**

**Minutes  
September 9, 2022**

The Tennessee Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial Commission met this day at 9:00 AM CT for a meeting both in person and utilization of a Microsoft Teams forum. Notice being given seven (7) days prior on the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development website. The meeting was called to order at 9:03 AM CT by Chairman Carroll Van West. Roll was called and a quorum was established, with the following members present:

**MEMBERS PRESENT<sup>1</sup>**

Jennifer Core	Dr. Warren Dockter
Commissioner Mark Ezell	Ashley Howell
Patrick McIntyre	Jamie Ritter
Emily Robinson <sup>2</sup>	Dr. Carroll Van West

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Rep. Clark Boyd  
Sen. Rusty Crowe  
Sen. Todd Gardenhire  
Rep. G.A. Hardaway  
Fred Underdown

**GUESTS PRESENT**

Melanie Beauchamp, Department of Tourist Development, Assistant Commissioner, Rural Tourism & Outreach

Ashley Fuqua, Department of Tourist Development, Legislative Liaison & Assistant General Counsel, Acting Attorney & Secretary for the Commission

Andi Grindley, Department of Tourist Development, Outreach Projects Coordinator  
Christina Treglia, Department of Environment and Conservation, Director of Brand Promise

**AGENDA**

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<sup>1</sup> All Commission members and guests participated in the meeting virtually.  
<sup>2</sup> Emily Robinson is the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), member. She assumes commission membership from Cecile Wimberley due to her membership and position in the DAR.

**Welcome**, West

Welcome and Call to Order.

**Housekeeping**, Fuqua

- Roll Call. 8 members were present, 5 members were absent at the time of the roll call. A quorum was established.
- A statement of necessity will be filed with the Tennessee Secretary of State's Office per Tenn. Code Ann. § 8-44-108(a)(3). The Statement of Necessity was read into the record at the onset of the meeting, per statutory requirements for electronic meetings, and rendered as essential to continue the business of the Commission and adoption of the August minutes.
- Approved the August Minutes of the Commission without a reading, as the Minutes were provided to members in advance of the meeting. Motion by Ezell with second by Ritter, all members present voted in favor, none opposed. Motion carries.

**New Business**, West

1. Invitation for 250<sup>th</sup> Event in Williamsburg. Howell provided an update. A colleague sent an invite for a delegation from Tennessee to attend a meeting on March 10-12, 2023. The meeting would be to discuss plans for the 250<sup>th</sup> and share ideas. Dr. West and Dr. Dockter plan to join Howell in the delegation for the event.
2. Update for September Event-Overmountain Men at Sycamore Shoals, Robinson spoke on behalf of Underdown but is unable to attend. A representative is attending in Robinson's place. Second Saturday in September on a yearly basis. Said the event will occur and good attendance is expected. Dockter sent links to Underdown. Dockter is speaking at the event on Saturday morning. Dockter will mention
3. TN 250th Website Update
  - a. Discussion, Beauchamp, discussed the website and what appears on Commission's website to date. Edits have been made and website is on the department's industry site so is now live. No feedback received for changes that need to occur. Will add news as events take place. Members should send information to post to Beauchamp or Grindley.  
Grindley, please send headshots and bios for posting.  
West, please post the October 8, 2022, information on the website.
4. America 250 Foundation Agreement Update, Fuqua provided an update to the Commission regarding the contract. The 250<sup>th</sup> Commission is currently reviewing the state's templates to see if they can sign the required documents. If not, Fuqua will go back to the state's Central Procurement Office, CPO, and then CPO can begin negotiations with the America 250 Foundation directly.
  - a. Discussion, West had a good conversation with America 250 and they remain positive about a partnership with Tennessee. America 250 made apologies for any miscommunications and said Tennessee is not only state in predicament regarding contracts. There was a new Commission head appointed by President Biden so group is in transition but remains committed to 250<sup>th</sup> events. West sent

two slides to group from his discussions. In 2025, the Foundation will do a spotlight on each state weekly. The Foundation also wishes for each state to submit a video clip of someone sharing message about 250<sup>th</sup>. Content is up to states, but there is a request from the Foundation for Dolly Parton to provide a message.

5. Upcoming Events. Dockter provided an update. Underdown did not have enough of a signal to join meeting today. Dockter talked mostly about his speech for the Overmountain Men event and mentioning the 250<sup>th</sup> in Tennessee. He also spoke about an exhibit at the Medal of Honor celebration in Knoxville. West has a meeting in Memphis in October and will get feedback regarding Tennessee's planned events. West will hear what other groups want to do for events in Memphis.

**Announcements**, West

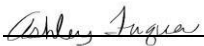
There was no additional new business nor old business. There were no public comments.

**Closing Remarks**, West

West, Dismiss as business has been concluded. Dockter provided the motion, second by Robinson. The meeting adjourned at 9:27 am.

Approved:

11/4/2022  
Date

  
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Ashley Fuqua, Acting Secretary  
Department of Tourist Development