

Somers Ad hoc America250 Planning Committee Minutes

Wednesday September 3, 2025

Selectmen's Conference Room

Call to Order: First Selectman Tim Keeney opened the meeting at 5:10PM

Pledge of Allegiance

Members Present: Michael Clarity, Donna Hanks, Scott Kaupin, Michael Marinaccio, Susan Peck, David Pinney, Scott Sutter. Not present, John Parks & Tim Simoes

Opening Remarks by First Selectman Tim Keeney: The Continental Congress adopted the Declaration Independence on July 4th 1776, it was engrossed on parchment and on August 2, 1776, delegates begin signing it. CT Governor Ted Lamont has directed all towns in the State to plan a town celebration to commemorate the signing.

Review of Charges:

Develop a draft schedule of events for the celebration – Suggestions that came forth is that the event could possibly be held more than one day with a tentative date of August 14th and 15th 2026 at different locations. One event mentioned was the possibility of a 2.50 mile road race. Also, the possibility of viewing the art collection at the Blake Center on Hall Hill Road, a replica of the home of Thomas Jefferson (Monticello), one of the writers of the declaration.

Establish a preliminary budget for proposed activities - \$50,000 - \$60,000 was a tentative number to be discussed.

Elections of Officers:

David Pinney, was nominated as Chair, Scott Kaupin was nominated as Co-chair, Michael Marinaccio was nominated as Treasurer and Donna Hanks was nominated as Secretary. All were approved unanimously.

Meeting Schedule:

Next meeting to be held in the Selectmen's Conference Room Wednesday September 10, 2025 at 5:30PM and there after every other Wednesday at 5:30PM in the same location.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:00PM

Respectfully submitted,

Donna E. Hanks, Secretary