

**TENNESSEE COMMISSION FOR THE UNITED STATES SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL COMMISSION
Microsoft Teams Video Conference
Nashville, Tennessee**

**Minutes
June 4, 2021**

The Tennessee Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial Commission met this day at 9:00 AM CT for a meeting, electronic only, using 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 9:21 AM CT by Chairman Carroll Van West. Roll was called and a quorum was established, with the following members present:

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jennifer Core	Commissioner Mark Ezell
Steve Gaines	Senator Todd Gardenhire *
Ashley Howell	Chuck Sherrill **
Carroll Van West	Cecile Wimberley

* Senator Todd Gardenhire called in to the meeting and appeared as the unidentified guest on the video. While he was not identified by a written name, he confirmed his presence by phone.

** Chuck Sherrill joined the meeting after the roll was called.

MEMBERS ABSENT

Rep. Clark Boyd
Sen. Rusty Crowe
Rep. G.A. Hardaway
Dr. Warren Dockter
Patrick McIntyre

GUESTS PRESENT

Ashley Fuqua, Department of Tourist Development, Legislative Liaison & Acting Secretary for the Commission
Andi Grindley, Department of Tourist Development, Outreach Projects Coordinator

A statement of necessity was 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 Teams meeting.

AGENDA

Welcome, West

Welcome and Call to Order.

Housekeeping, Fuqua

- Roll Call. 7 members were present, 6 members were absent at the time of the roll call. Chuck Sherrill joined the meeting following the roll call.
- Statement of Necessity was read at the meeting and later submitted to the Secretary of State's office per statutory requirements. The statement was required as majority of members participated electronically. As members of the board reside across the entire state, it is impractical for all members to appear for a meeting in-person which became the necessity for the meeting to be held electronically.
- Approved the March 5, 2021 and April 9, 2021 Minutes of the Commission without a reading, as the Minutes were provided to members in advance of the meeting. Motion by West with second by Core, all members present voted in favor, none opposed.
- Fuqua made a statement that should members call in or attend Teams meeting, she would recognize them and have time for public comment. Hearing or seeing none, the meeting proceeded.

Announcements, West

- West, asked Wimberley to give her thoughts and impressions from the June America 250 meeting.
- Discussion.
 - Wimberley provided an update as to the expectations of a partnership. Still no paperwork or presentation to share at this time. Wimberley is aware they hope to have a convention of the states and hope to have more information to share after the June 15, 2021 meeting. As part of the partnership, there will be marketing information to share and will help TDTD to start working to brand Tennessee's event.
 - West also provided information from his notes, specifically noting, that the difference between what Tennessee hopes to achieve and recognize versus the America 250 group is chronology. America 250 wants to go through 2027, while Tennessee wants to celebrate through 2030 or 2033 with the Treaty of Paris which ended the Revolution. He suspects America 250 wants to act as a facilitator by engaging with the states celebrating. He will participate in June 15th meeting at 11:30 EST. He will send information to anyone wishing to attend.
 - Wimberley discussed the Gathering at Sycamore Shoals meeting hosted by the SAR-Sons of the American Revolution. The DAR-Daughters of the American Revolution--will place a 250th marker at the shore of the state park. The marker placement will occur on Saturday, September 11, 2021. Wimberley asked Gaines to confirm date. West confirmed date and his attendance.

New Business, West

- Discussion of the draft mission statement. West sent to all members and read into the record.
 - Mission Statement: The commission promotes an inclusive statewide celebration and educational commemoration of America's 250th by interpreting and preserving

Tennessee's unique stories, objects, landmarks, and places across our diverse state that defined who we are as Tennesseans and Americans.

- Draft mission statement was accepted by acclimation by members present. Motion by Ezell, second by Wimberly.

- Discussion of the format of the August Semiquincentennial meeting. Time will remain at 9am CST.
 - West would like to have an in-person meeting with a call-in option remaining. Many of the members are present in Nashville.
 - Wimberly thinks it is a great idea if a call-in option remains.
 - Howell said it meets the standard of how other meetings are taking place in state government and is a good shift for the Commission.
 - West wants most of agenda of August meeting to revolve around discussion of public meetings across the state. Where the meetings will occur across the state needs to be discussed. These meetings will be used to get feedback from citizens to hear what individuals would like to see occurring during the celebration(s).

- No public comments.

Closing Remarks, West

West thanked everyone for joining the call. It was determined there would be no July meeting. West adjourned the meeting at 9:39am. Motion by Sherrill, second by Gaines. All members joined in acclimation.

Approved:

8/06/2021
Date



Ashley Fuqua, Acting Secretary
Department of Tourist Development