

**MINUTES**  
**TEXAS AMERICA250 COMMISSION**  
**Bullock Texas State History Museum**  
**1800 N. Congress, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Boardroom**  
**Austin, Texas 78701**  
**August 8, 2024**  
**11:00 AM**  
**VIDEOCONFERENCE MEETING**

The Texas America250 Commission convened with the following designated Members of Commission Agencies: Margaret Koch, Presiding Chair, Bullock Texas State History Museum, Jelain Chubb, Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Pat Hardy, State Board of Education.

**Item 1: Call to Order and Establishment of a Quorum, Introductions**

Margaret Koch, serving as the Commission's presiding officer, called the meeting to order at 11:00 am and called roll. A quorum was present.

Members of advisory panel of state agencies and organizations introduced themselves. Advisors present were: Rebekah Dobrasko, Texas Department of Transportation, Emily Hermans, Texas Historical Commission, Kierstan Schwab, TX PBS, Nathan Jones, The Alamo Trust, Ali James, State Preservation Board, Kelsi Tyler, Humanities Texas, Lynn Forney Young, America250 Commission Member from Texas.

Invited guests were: Steven McFarland, Harrison County, Frank Barrows, Senior Advisor for Community Engagement, Commemorations and Anniversaries, National Park Service (NPS) and Christine Jacobs, superintendent of San Antonio Historical Park and NPS A250 liaison for Texas.

**Item 2: Discussion and Possible Action on Approval of Minutes from Meeting on July 18, 2024**

Chair Koch called for a motion to approve the minutes of the last Commission meeting held on July 18, 2024, as presented. Jelain Chubb so moved and Pat Hardy offered a second. The motion carried and the minutes of the previous meeting were adopted.

**Item 3: Receipt of Public Comment**

The Chair called for anyone wishing to provide public comment on any matter pertaining to the Commission.

Frank Burrows, Senior Advisor of Commemorations and Anniversaries shared National Parks Service efforts. [America's National Parks: Inspiring a More Perfect Union](#) aims to use parks as "America's story tellers" through Semiquincentennial Grants and [Citizen Archivist](#) programs. Production of a National Park Service film begins in August; film will premiere in park theaters during 2026 anniversary.

Steven McFarland, Harrison County created a shareable website template counties could utilize to build local America250 web pages. Steven suggested approaching county judges to nominate representatives for individual city planning regarding 250th commemorations.

#### **Item 4. Consideration of the Following Agenda Items:**

##### **4.1 Discussion/Possible Action regarding Guidelines for licensing use of Texas America250 Logo**

After initial discussion, Jelain Chubb offered to analyze licensing agreements shared between states and draft licensing options for the Texas America250 Commission. Evaluation criteria for licensing may include use of logo and name by entities other than the Commission as well as any licensing fees of logo product development. No action needed at this time.

##### **4.2 Discussion/Possible Action regarding Financial Matters**

Texas America250 Commissioners will draft a budget for discussion and possible action based on the Commission's established goals. Consensus at this time is to obtain pricing on promotional materials. Pat Hardy and Lynn Young will try to schedule a meeting with Senator Schwertner's office to discuss possible Legislative funding.

##### **4.3 Discussion/Possible Action regarding update on Texas America250 web page and draft introductory letters/press releases regarding Texas America250**

The Texas America250 webpage is now live. Press release and introductory letters are being drafted. National Commission shared name and contact information of Texas students who submitted entries to America's Field Trip. Pat Hardy will send Thank You letters to students on behalf of the Commission. Jelain Chubb will check in with Monte Monroe on the Caucus and county introductory letter draft.

##### **4.4 Discussion/Possible Action regarding Nominations for Advisory Panel**

Advisory panel nominees and ambassadors representing federal agencies such as the National Park Service, will need a formal invitation from the Commission to take to their administrations for participation. Nominees are: Christine Jacobs, NPS; Chet Garner, The Daytripper; Steve Gonzales, El Camino Real de los Tejas National Historic Trail Association; Daughters and Sons of the American Revolution; Girl Scouts; Mark Updegrave, LBJ Foundation; Texas Travel Alliance, Federally Recognized Tribes in Texas; and Past Governors and Spouses.

Christine Jacobs offered to facilitate introduction with philanthropic friends of NPS for more potential advisors.

#### **Item 5: September Meeting Date**

Presiding Chair Koch is traveling to AASLH Conference during the next scheduled meeting. Texas America250 Commission Meeting is rescheduled to September 19, 2024. Jelain Chubb will be not be present; she is attending the Council of State Archivists Annual Meeting. With America250 sessions included in multiple upcoming conferences, an information sheet will be created for the Texas America250 Commission to use in Commemoration talks. Commission will discuss the potential of a Texas America250 Newsletter.

**Item 6: Adjournment**

With no further business, the Chair requested a motion to adjourn. Pat Hardy made motion to adjourn the meeting, Jelain Chubb seconded, and the motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:02 p.m.