



MEMORANDUM

To: Members of the Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission
From: Patrick L. Mauney, Executive Director
Date: August 16, 2022
Subject: VA250 Commission Resolution / Consideration of Regional Committee

The Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission (VA250) was created by the General Assembly for the purpose of planning for and commemorating the 250th anniversary of Virginia's participation in American independence, the duration of which will be 2022 through 2026. The Commission is composed of legislative leaders, tourism and economic development officials, historians, and experts across a wide spectrum.

Virginia leads a nationwide effort in creating a commission to formally begin planning for the commemoration. As you know, the 250th anniversary of American independence holds tremendous educational, economic, and tourism opportunities for the Commonwealth. Not only was Virginia a central focus of the American Revolution in the 1770's and 1780's, but it is still at the center, in terms of what visitors can see and experience today.

To position Virginia as a key leader in this national commemoration, the state Commission is requesting localities form a Local VA250 Committee to join in the planning for this large-scale commemoration. Furthermore, the state Commission asks each locality to designate a liaison to work with the Commission, who will serve as the local contact with the state commission, participate in planning events, and communicate regularly on events occurring within the locality. Grant funding opportunities for commemorative events, along with available programming such as traveling exhibitions and teacher resources may be available for localities who have formed an official Local VA250 Committee, as evidenced by passing a local resolution of support, and designating a local contact.

Upon suggestion by Rappahannock County, the Regional Commission convened your local tourism directors to determine interest in a regional committee. Such a regional committee does not prohibit each locality from forming its own committee, but would enable sharing of local resources and build on successful tourism partnerships such as Tween Rivers Trail and the Virginia Piedmont. The tourism directors are supportive of such a regional approach.

REQUESTED ACTION: Adoption of the attached Resolution in Support of the Virginia American 250 Commission and enable formation of a regional VA250 committee



Resolution In Support of the Virginia American 250 Commission

WHEREAS, the Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission (“the Commission”) serves the Counties of Culpeper, Fauquier, Madison, Orange, and Rappahannock, and the Towns of Culpeper, Gordonsville, Madison, Orange, Remington, The Plains, Warrenton, and Washington, known as Planning District 9; and

WHEREAS, the Commission is dedicated to the furtherance of economic development and tourism throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia America 250 Commission (VA250) was created in 2020 by the General Assembly for the purpose of preparing for and commemorating the 250th anniversary of Virginia’s participation in American independence; and

WHEREAS, VA 250 has requested localities consider forming local and/or regional committees to aid in the planning for the commemoration period; and

WHEREAS, the Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission will form a regional VA250 committee with its local tourism partners; and

WHEREAS, the committee may plan and coordinate programs occurring within the region and will communicate regularly with VA250, and support local committees in their efforts related to VA250; and

WHEREAS, the Commission wishes to undertake this endeavor with VA250 to promote and commemorate this important historic milestone;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Commission hereby expresses its desire to support the Virginia America 250 Commission and their efforts to commemorate the 250th anniversary of Virginia’s participation in American independence.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Commission will form a committee with its local tourism partners to aid in the planning for the commemoration period.

Adopted the 24th day of August 2022 by the Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission being duly assembled.

ATTEST:

Meaghan Taylor, Chair

Patrick L. Mauney, Executive Director



VIRGINIA AMERICAN REVOLUTION 250 COMMISSION
Local 250th Committee Assignment Form

The Virginia American Revolution Commission was created by the General Assembly for the purpose of planning for and commemorating the 250th anniversary of Virginia's participation in the American Revolution, the Revolutionary War, and the formation of the nation. Planning for this statewide and national event has already begun, and culminates in 2026, and then continuing beyond. Each locality is asked to form a local 250th committee to begin planning for the multi-year commemoration period. The Commission will provide grant opportunities and technical support to local committees. **Please designate below a liaison to work with the Commission, who will serve as liaison between the local community and the state commission.** Localities are also encouraged to pass a resolution of support establishing a Local 250th Committee.

Locality: Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission

Name of Designee: Patrick Mauney and/or Elizabeth Beling

Title: Executive Director / Farm to School Liaison

Organization: Rappahannock-Rapidan Regional Commission

Address: 420 Southridge Parkway, Suite 106

Culpeper, VA 22701

Phone: 540-829-7450

Email: plmauney@rrregion.org / ebeling@rrregion.org

Comments: Committee would include representatives from counties of Culpeper, Fauquier,

Madison, Orange and Rappahannock and towns of Culpeper, Gordonsville, Madison, Orange,

Remington, The Plains, Warrenton and Washington

Please return to: Elizabeth Mancano, Deputy Director, VA250 Commission, 2110 Jamestown Road, Williamsburg VA 23185. Phone: 757-837-7228 / Email: elizabeth.mancano@jyf.virginia.gov