

Wallingford Celebrates America 250

Special Meeting Minutes

August 26, 2025

Roz called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. Those in attendance were Jerry Farrell, Jr., Shawn Keogh, Liz Landow, Renee Miller, Bob Beaumont, and Tara Knapp, Roz Gallagher. Absent were Alison Cady and Bob Devaney.

The Minutes from the previous meeting were approved as submitted,

A financial update was given by Roz and Tara. To date \$5,000.00 has been paid by Choate Rosemary Hall, \$5,000.00 by Gaylord Hospital, and \$1000.00 by Worker's Compensation Trust. All funds have been deposited into our account with the Town. We also have pledges for \$10,000.00 from the Wallingford Historical Society, \$2,500.00 from Masonicare, and \$2,500.00 from Ulbrich Specialty Metals,

Bob Beaumont reported a flyer will be inserted in the Electric Division invoices which will be mailed out to approximately 23,000 homes at the end of August, 2025. We will repeat this mailing in early June, 2026.

Tara, Renee, and Liz will look into the possibility of selling Wallingford Celebrates American 250 merchandise at the Wallingford Arts and Cultural Alliance Exhibit during Celebrate Wallingford in October 2025 and all through 2026.

Liz will contact Steve Nevard for pricing on a photo booth at the event in 2026.

Liz reported that Mark Vogt is onboard for the Porch Fest event. It was decided to allocate up to \$1000.00 for expenses he might incur.

Roz will contact Cori Haas in the Mayor's Office and set up the dates for a banner to be displayed at one of the three possible sites the three weeks preceding our event.

Bob Beaumont agreed to work on music for the Parade and will contact the schools. Jerry mentioned a large group (approximately 70 participants) his son plays with that travels around and will research the possibility of the group marching/playing music during the Parade. Overnight housing will be a consideration.

Jerry agreed to arrange a time for Roz, Renee, and himself to meet with Kurt Treiber in Risk Management to discuss the various liability requirements and safety issues that must be observed for every event.

Shawn discussed merging the YMCA Healthy Family Day along with other family/children friendly activities for Family Day. The Committee agreed to budget \$5,000.00 for Family Day expenses.

The Committee agreed the Fire Marshal must be contacted by a Committee member and/or Choate Rosemary Hall regarding requirements for Family Day activities on the Choate Rosemary Hall Campus.

Tara has spoken with Kyle Schwartz regarding social media marketing. Included each week will be an individual thank you to each sponsor. Jerry reported he has contacted the Library and an event related to Wallingford Celebrates America 250 has already been planned for June 16, 2026. Jerry will also be doing a Podcast.

The next meeting date was set for Thursday, September 18, 2025 at Le Jardin at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Roz Gallagher