

Maryland250 Commission

2021 ANNUAL REPORT & ACTION PLAN



MD250
COMMISSION

Presented to:

Governor Larry Hogan

&

The Maryland General Assembly

December 21, 2021

Dear Governor Hogan & Maryland General Assembly,

Thank you for the incredible opportunity to serve the State of Maryland and its six million residents as Chair and Vice Chair of the Maryland250 Commission. We take this honor and responsibility seriously and thoughtfully and we are proud to report the progress the Commission has made in its first established year.

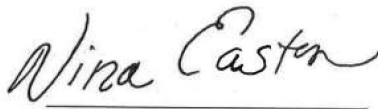
We are also very excited to share the Commission's goals, mission, and plans leading us to 2026, our 250th anniversary as a free nation. As you know, Maryland was instrumental in the American Revolution, and we look forward to telling the many stories and brave decisions that led to the birth of America. We will also highlight courageous Marylanders who went on to fight for the full freedoms for all, as promised by the Declaration. This is an opportunity to tell the American story as it continues to unfold toward a more perfect union, with an eye toward including untold stories of those Maryland heroes determined to fulfill the promise of liberty.

An item of note: The Commission voted unanimously at its first full meeting on October 28, 2021 to change the name to "Maryland250" or "MD250" for marketing and communications purposes. We will operate under and refer to the Commission as such.

We submit this Maryland250 Commission 2021 Annual Report and Action Plan to you with great expectation for a 250th anniversary commemoration that honors all Marylanders and enhances our collective understanding of the past, present, and future.

Sincerely,

Nina Easton
Maryland250 Commission Chair



Isiah "Ike" Leggett
Maryland250 Commission Vice Chair

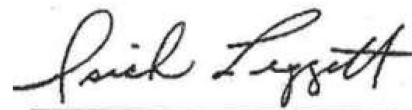


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Maryland250 Commission Activities 2021

- Recruited and appointed an Executive Director to execute Commission duties.
 - Creation and fulfillment of Vice Chair position.
 - Outreach, recruitment, and installation of 29 commission members, as designated by Executive Order. Still awaiting one appointment by the Maryland Senate President.
 - Creation of Commission Committee system for more efficient work flow as outlined in Executive Order; initial meeting of six Commission committees conducted.
 - Agreement reached and continual coordination with America250, which provided seed funding to be designated for the MD250 website, MD250 Logo.
 - Chairman attendance at all America250 meetings, enabling insights on activities/planning by other states and coordination at the national level.
 - Commission conversations with other states.
 - Pursuit and near completion of partnership agreement with Preservation Maryland, a 501c3, to enable private donor fundraising, as outlined in Executive Order.
 - Creation of a temporary state website to announce Commission activities.
 - Recruitment of additional non-Commission Voluntary Advisors with specific expertise in such areas as Maryland history, tourism, and communications.
 - Creation of thematic language for MD250 to fulfill America250 mandate that this be “the most inclusive American celebration ever.”
- Commission Meetings Held
- October 28, 2021 - [WATCH HERE](#)
 - Adopted Commission Bylaws
 - Adopted Public Commenting Policy
 - Voted Isiah Leggett as Vice Chair
 - Voted to change Commission name to “Maryland250” or “MD250”
 - December 2, 2021 - [WATCH HERE](#)
 - Committee Reports Delivered
 - Preservation Maryland Agreement discussion
 - MD250 Commission visit to Maryland State House planned for January 14, 2022.
 - Next full MD250 Commission meeting scheduled for February 14, 2022.

Maryland Semiquincentennial Commission

WHEREAS, The 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States of America will occur on July 4, 2026;

WHEREAS, The United States Congress established the U.S. Centennial Commission to coordinate the commemoration and observance of the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, Revolutionary War, founding of the United States, and related events;

WHEREAS, Maryland played host to the “Annapolis Tea Party” in October 1774, when the cargo ship Peggy Stewart was burned to the waterline after a tax dispute involving the Tea Act;

WHEREAS, Marylanders began to call for American independence in 1775 with the issuance of the Bush Declaration - considered the first “declaration of independence” in the colonies - and the Annapolis Convention declaration that the Association of Freemen of Maryland must prepare for the colonies’ defense;

WHEREAS, Four prominent Marylanders signed the Declaration of Independence: Samuel Chase, William Paca, Thomas Stone, and Charles Carroll, the only Roman Catholic a; Congress;

WHEREAS, Maryland made several significant contributions to the Revolutionary War by supplying material, resources, ships, and soldiers;

WHEREAS, The courage and sacrifice of the first Maryland Regiment, known as the Maryland Old Line and

Maryland 400, at the battle of Brooklyn in 1776 helped save the Continental Army;

WHEREAS,

Baltimore served as a temporary capital for the colonies during the Continental Congress in 1776 and 1777;

WHEREAS,

The Maryland State House, the oldest state capitol in continuous legislative use, hosted the Continental Congress in 1783 and 1784, and is where George Washington came before Congress to resign his commission as commander-in-chief of the Continental Army;

WHEREAS,

The Maryland State House was the site of the ratification of the Treaty of Paris on January 14, 1784 which formally ended the Revolutionary War;

WHEREAS,

In September 1786, Maryland played host to the Annapolis Convention where delegates discussed the amendments to the Articles of Confederation and resolved to organize a Constitutional Convention; and

WHEREAS,

It is in the interest of the State to recognize Maryland's unique role in the American Revolution by undertaking commemorative activities that honor all Marylanders, enhance our collective understanding of the past, present, and future;

NOW, THEREFORE, I LAWRENCE J. HOGAN JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, BY VIRTUE OF THE AUTHORITY VESTED IN ME BY THE CONSTITUTION AND THE LAWS OF MARYLAND, HEREBY PROCLAIM THE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE ORDER, EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY:

- I. There is a Maryland Semiquincentennial Commission (the "Commission")
- II. Membership.
 - A. The Commission shall consist of the following members:

1. The Secretary of Budget and Management, or the Secretary's designee;
 2. The Secretary of Commerce, or the Secretary's designee;
 3. The Secretary of Natural Resources, or the Secretary's designee;
 4. The Secretary of Planning, or the Secretary's designee;
 5. The Secretary of State, or the Secretary's designee;
 6. The Secretary of General Service, or the Secretary's designee;
 7. The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, or the Secretary's designee;
 8. The Executive Director of the Governor's Office of Community Initiatives, or the Director's designee; and
 9. Up to six members of the general public with related or relevant background, expertise, or interest, appointed by the Governor.
- B. The following are invited to be, and shall be upon acceptance, members of the Commission:
1. Two members appointed by the appointed by the President of the Maryland Senate;
 2. Two members appointed by the Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegate;
 3. The State Superintendent of Schools, or the Superintendent's designee;
 4. The State Archivist, or the Archivist's designee;
 5. The State Historic Preservation Officer, or the Officer's designee;
 6. The Chair of the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture, or the Chair's designee;
 7. The Chair of the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs, or the Chair's designee;
 8. The Chair of the Maryland Commission for Women, or the Chair's designee;
 9. The Executive Director of the Maryland Association of Counties, or the Director's designee;
 10. The Executive Director of the Maryland Municipal League, or the Director's designee;
 11. A representative of the Judiciary, appointed by the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals of Maryland; and
 12. Up to three members of the non-profit community, selected from the Maryland Center for History and Culture, the Maryland Humanities Council, Preservation Maryland or other similar organizations.

- C. The Governor shall appoint a chair from the members of the Commission.
 - D. Members serve at the pleasure of the Governor.
 - E. The Commission shall be reflective and representative of the diverse communities, peoples, and regions of the State.
 - F. Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the Commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.
- III. The Maryland Department of Planning and Governor's Coordinating Office shall provide the Commission with resources and staff as feasible and necessary for administering and facilitating the work of the Commission.
- IV. Members of the Commission may not receive any compensation for their services, but may be reimbursed for their reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of the duties in accordance with the State Standard Travel Regulations and as provided in the State budget.
- V. The Commission shall:
- A. Adopt administrative and financial procedures for the transaction of business including, but not limited to the establishment of advisory groups, committees, or work groups;
 - B. Consider entering into a partnership with a tax-exempt entity to support the purpose and work of the Commission;
 - C. Coordinate, engage, and liaise with the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission, and other local, county and state commissions and private and public organizations and partners including, but not limited to the America 250 Foundation and the American Battlefield Trust;
 - D. Develop, encourage, and execute celebration, commemoration, and observance of the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, Revolutionary War and founding of the United States of America and all its people, through civic, cultural, and historic education, events and programming.
 - E. Hold at least semi-annual meetings:
 - 1. At times and places to be determined by the chair; and
 - 2. That are conducted in accordance with the Open Meetings Act;
 - F. Promote the documentation, identification, and preservation of cultural and historical resources, including archives, building, landscapes, objects and sites related to the Semiquincentennial;
 - G. Create a model curriculum about the Revolutionary War period, its impact on Maryland, and the diverse people who supported and participated in the country's fight for independence;

- H. Serve as the State of Maryland’s official representative for the Semiquincentennial and all related activities, communications, and events; and
 - I. Solicit, accept, use, and dispose of donations, funds, and gifts in conformance with the Public Ethics Law, to support the goals and purposes of the Commission.
- VI. The Commission shall further:
- A. Submit an Action Plan to the Governor and General Assembly by December 31, 2021, that outlines the Commission’s goals, mission, and recommendations; and
 - B. Produce by December 31 of each year an annual report to the Governor and General Assembly that includes an update on the Action Plan, implementation benchmarks, related deadlines and schedules, and an accounting and enumeration of all contracts, donations, and gifts.
- VII. The Commission shall terminate on December 31, 2027.

Given Under my Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, in the City of Annapolis this 14th Day of January, 2021.



Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor

John C. Wobensmith
John C. Wobensmith
Secretary of State

Maryland and the Birth of America

It is more than just a commemoration of one date.

It's a celebration of the beginning of the American story.

In Maryland, it's a collection of stories of unfolding the blessings of liberty through time.

As Maryland's story unfolds, it is marked by events and places, but more importantly, the people who have challenged us to grow into a more perfect union.

The courage and sacrifice of the First Maryland Regiment, known as the Maryland Old Line and Maryland 400, at the Battle of Brooklyn in 1776, helped save the Continental Army and potentially the United States of America.

In Maryland, George Washington entered our State House as the victorious General of the American Army and left as a private citizen – unfolding the concept of civilian control over the military.

In Maryland, Harriet Tubman created a network of stations providing a pathway to freedom – unfolding a taste of the freedoms promised by our Independence. Enslaved Marylanders Frederick Douglass and Josiah Henson likewise went on to become powerful abolitionist voices.

In Maryland, steelworkers produced the ships and materiel that saved a world at war twice, unfolding our never ending stance against defeating the threat of tyranny.

The U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission was established by Congress to inspire all Americans to participate in our greatest milestone ever — the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States that will occur in 2026. Every state in the nation, including Maryland, has begun planning the festivities to celebrate.

On January 14, 2021, Governor Larry Hogan signed an Executive Order creating the Maryland Semiquincentennial Commission to commemorate Maryland's unique role in the American Revolution. Our mission is to honor all Marylanders by remembering our past, celebrating the present, and looking forward to a promising future.

We're charged with orchestrating the largest and most inclusive anniversary observance in our nation's history. The Commission will work with public and private entities across the country to make America 250 a once-in-a-lifetime experience for all Americans.

We have partnered with The America250 Foundation, officially designated by the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission to honor America's 250th and will ensure Maryland's critical role at this time in history is remembered.

Maryland played an integral part in the birth of our nation. On December 23, 1783, General George Washington came before Congress to resign his commission as commander-in-chief of the Continental Army. Just three weeks later, on January 14, 1784, Congress ratified the Treaty of Paris, officially ending the Revolutionary War, thus making Annapolis the new nation's first peacetime capital.

Other prominent events in Maryland:

- Maryland played host to the "Annapolis Tea Party" in October 1774, when the cargo ship *Peggy Stewart* was burned to the waterline after a tax dispute involving the Tea Act.
- Marylanders began to call for American independence in 1775 with the issuance of the Bush Declaration (also known as the Bush River Declaration) –considered the first "declaration of independence" in the colonies – and the Annapolis Convention declaration that the Association of Freemen of Maryland must prepare for the colony's defense.
- Four prominent Marylanders signed the Declaration of Independence: Samuel Chase, William Paca, Thomas Stone, and Charles Carroll, the only Roman Catholic among the 56 members of the Second Continental Congress,
- Baltimore served as a temporary capital for the colonies during the Continental Congress in 1776 and 1777.
- In Maryland, the first common commercial carrier railroad in the United States was chartered in 1827, the B&O Railroad, used to transport steel and other goods.

Maryland250 Commission Members

Chair: Nina Easton

Vice Chair: Isiah “Ike” Leggett

Commission Members:

Elaine Rice Bachmann, State Archivist

Angelica Bailey, Maryland Municipal League

Lindsey Baker, Maryland Humanities Council

Gregory Bartles, Maryland Natural Resources Police Volunteer

Luis Borunda, Deputy Secretary of State, Office of the Secretary of State

Jack Broderick, Kent Island Heritage Society

Keith Colston, Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs

Gene Deems, Department of Natural Resources

Senator Sarah Elfreth, Maryland General Assembly

Judith Emmel, Maryland Commission for Women

Joni Floyd, University of Maryland, Appointed by Speaker of the House

Hon. Joseph M. Getty, Maryland Court of Appeals

Kris A. Hoellen, B&O Railroad Museum

Elizabeth Hughes, Maryland Historical Trust

Patrick J. Lally, The Governor’s Office of Community Initiatives in the Governor’s Coordinating Offices

Steven X. Lee, Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture

Bruce Lesh, Maryland State Department of Education

Pete Lesh, Maryland Association of Counties

Mark Letzer, Maryland Center for History and Culture

Luis A Luna, Department of General Services

Robert S. McCord, Maryland Department of Planning

Denise Nooe, Department of Veterans Affairs

Nicholas Redding, Preservation Maryland

Tom Riford, Department of Commerce

Reggie Turner, Commission on African American History and Culture

Mark Wasserman, Appointed by Speaker of the House

Paul Webb, Department of Budget and Management

*Awaiting one final appointment from the Maryland Senate President.

Maryland250 Commission Bylaws

These Bylaws of the Maryland Semiquincentennial Commission, hereinafter referred to as the “Commission”, are subject to the provisions of Executive Order 01.01.2021.03 by which the Commission was created (the “Executive Order”), as may be amended.

ARTICLE I – Purpose

The purpose of the Commission is to recognize Maryland’s unique role in the American Revolution by undertaking commemorative activities that honor all Marylanders and enhance our collective understanding of the past, present, and future. The Commission shall terminate on December 31, 2027.

ARTICLE II – Membership

Section 1. Appointment; Term. The Commission’s membership of up to 30 Members is established by the Executive Order. A Member shall continue to serve until the termination of the Commission, or until such time as the Governor appoints a successor for the Member.

A. Members of the Commission shall consist of the following:

The Secretary of Budget and Management, or the Secretary’s designee;
The Secretary of Commerce, or the Secretary’s designee;
The Secretary of Natural Resources, or the Secretary’s designee;
The Secretary of Planning, or the Secretary’s designee;
The Maryland Secretary of State, or the Secretary’s designee;
The Secretary of General Services, or the Secretary’s designee;
The Secretary of Veterans Affairs, or the Secretary’s designee;
The Executive Director of the Governor’s Office of Community Initiatives, or the Director’s designee; and
Up to six (6) members of the general public with related or relevant background, expertise, or interest, appointed by the Governor.

B. The following are invited to be, and shall be upon acceptance, members of the Commission:

Two (2) members appointed by the President of the Maryland Senate;

Two (2) members appointed by the Speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates;
The State Superintendent of Schools, or the Superintendent's designee;
The State Archivist, or the Archivist's designee;
The State Historic Preservation Officer, or the Officer's designee;
The Chair of the Maryland Commission on African American History and Culture, or the Chair's designee;
The Chair of the Maryland Commission on Indian Affairs, or the Chair's designee;
The Chair of the Maryland Commission for Women, or the Chair's designee;
The Executive Director of the Maryland Association of Counties, or the Director's designee;
The Executive Director of the Maryland Municipal League, or the Director's designee;
A representative of the Judiciary, appointed by the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals of Maryland; and
Up to three (3) members from the nonprofit community, selected from the Maryland Center for History and Culture, the Maryland Humanities Council, Preservation Maryland, or other similar

Section. 2 Non-Voting Members. If the Members appointed by the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Delegates concurrently serve in the Senate or the House, and on the Commission, those Members shall then serve as non-voting members on the Commission (the "Non-Voting Members").

Section 3. Vacancies. Any vacancy occurring in the membership of the Commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

Section 4. Chair. The Governor shall appoint a Chair from among the Members of the Commission.

Section 5. Vice Chair. At the Commission's first meeting during each fiscal year, the Members shall elect one of the Members to serve as Vice Chair of the Commission, to serve concurrently with the term of the Chair.

Section 6. Attendance; Removal. If a Member fails to attend at least 50 percent of the meetings of the Commission during any twelve (12) consecutive months, the Member shall be considered to have resigned and the Chair shall so notify the Member, the Commission and the organization the Member represents at or before the next succeeding regular meeting following such nonattendance. If the Member has been unable to attend the required number of meetings, the Member may request that the Chair waive the

Member's resignation for reasons made public and deemed satisfactory by the Chair. The Governor may remove a Member, other than an ex officio Member, for incompetence, misconduct, or failure to perform the Member's duties. The Commission may recommend to the Governor the removal of a Member for any of these reasons.

Section 7. Duties of Commission; Staff. The duties of the Commission are established in Sections V and VI of the Executive Order. The Maryland Department of Planning and Governor's Coordinating Offices shall provide the Commission with resources and staff as feasible and necessary for administering and facilitating the work of the Commission.

Section 8. Conflict of Interest. Members of the Commission shall comply with the Maryland Public Ethics Law contained in Title 5, General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

ARTICLE III – Meetings

Section 1. Time and Place. The Commission shall meet at least semi-annually at a time and place determined by the Chair. Meetings may be conducted through telephone conference calls or online video conference meetings provided that each participant can communicate in real time with all other participants.

Section 2. Open Meetings. All meetings of the Commission shall be conducted in accordance with the Open Meetings Act.

Section 3. Notice; Waiver. Notice of all meetings of the Commission, stating the time, date, and place, shall be provided to each Member by email not less than seven (7) days prior to the holding thereof, except that meetings may be held on shorter notice if a simple majority of the Members shall agree and that reasonable notice of a committee meeting shall be given prior to the meeting. Any Member may waive notice for any meeting by attending the meeting or by filing with the Chair a written waiver of the meeting notice either before or after the meeting.

Section 4. Public Notice. Notice of all meetings of the Commission, stating the time, date, and place, shall be provided to the public by posting on the Commission website. Meeting agendas will be posted in this same location when the meeting notice is posted or not less than 24 hours before the meeting.

Section 5. Quorum. The majority of the Members then serving on the Commission, not including the Non-Voting Members, constitutes a quorum at any meeting for the conduct of the business of the Commission. A Member who attends a meeting by conference call, online video conference meeting or other means by which the Member can communicate in real time with all other participants shall be counted towards a quorum.

Section 6. Voting at a Meeting. A proposed action of the Commission shall be made by resolution. The Non-Voting Members shall have no right to vote on any matter brought before the Commission, and shall serve in an advisory capacity only. All other Members present and counted towards a quorum at a meeting of the Commission shall be entitled to one vote on a resolution. There shall be no voting by proxy. Voting may be conducted via telephone conference calls or online video conference meetings as provided in Section 1 above. The minutes of Commission meetings shall record the vote of each Member on each action.

Section 7. Voting by Electronic Mail Without a Meeting. Any action required or permitted to be taken at any meeting may be taken without a meeting. The Commission will appoint from staff a liaison to administer votes taken by email without a meeting (the "Staff Administrator"). The Staff Administrator shall deliver a resolution setting forth the action to be taken by the Commission by an email addressed to the full Commission. The Members shall each vote on the resolution by email response addressed to the Staff Administrator. The Staff Administrator shall tally the email votes, and forward the tally, along with all the email votes, to the Vice Chair. The Vice Chair shall confirm the tally, and report the result of the vote to the Chair. The Chair shall report the tally to the Commission no later than one day following the email voting deadline stated in the Staff Administrator's email. A resolution made by email vote will pass only upon the affirmative vote of a majority of the Members then serving on the Commission, not including the Non-Voting Members. The resolution, the result of the email vote, and the deadline for the email vote shall be recorded in the minutes of the meeting of the Commission that follows an email vote.

Section 8. Duties of the Chair. The Chair shall preside at all meetings of the Commission; may sign and execute, in the name of the Commission, all authorized contracts, agreements or other instruments; and shall have other duties as may from time to time be assigned by the Commission or as otherwise prescribed by law or these Bylaws

Section 9. Duties of the Vice Chair. The Vice Chair shall have such duties as delegated by the Chair. At the request, absence, or disability of the Chair, the Vice Chair shall perform all the duties, and when so acting shall have all the powers of the Chair.

Section 10. Conduct of Meetings. Meetings of the Commission shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order in all cases to which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws, or any rules which the Members may adopt.

Section 11. Books and Records. The Commission shall keep at its principal office correct and complete books and records of account, activities, and transactions of the Commission, minutes of the proceedings of the Members and any committee of the Commission, and a current list of the Members and their business addresses. Any of the books, records, and minutes of the Commission may be in written form or in any other form capable of being converted into written form within a reasonable time.

ARTICLE IV – Committees

Section 1. General. The Commission may create committees as needed to support its work. Committees shall meet at times as is deemed necessary by the Chair or the majority of the Commission. The Commission shall have an Executive Committee.

Section 2. Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall have at least three (3) members consisting of the Chair, the Vice Chair, and one or more members to be selected by the Chair. The terms of the Executive Committee members shall be concurrent with the term of the Chair. The Chair shall act as chair of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee shall have such duties and perform such functions as may be authorized by the Commission in the administration of the affairs of the Commission. It shall have the express authority to act on behalf of the Commission when such action is required prior to the scheduled meeting of the Commission, or when a quorum of the Commission cannot be formed. The Executive Committee shall maintain a record, or minutes, of its proceedings and shall report regularly to the Commission.

Section 3. Appointment. All other committee members shall be appointed by the Chair.

Section 4. Quorum; Voting. A majority of the members of a committee shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of committee business. The act of a majority of those present

at a committee meeting at which a quorum is present shall be the act of the committee. The members of a committee may conduct any meeting and vote via telephone conference call or an online video conference meeting in accordance with the provisions of these Bylaws.

Section 5. Committee Minutes. Each committee shall keep minutes of its meetings, may establish rules of procedure for its business, and shall present a report at the next scheduled meeting of the Commission. Copies of all committee correspondence and records shall be filed with the Chair for inclusion in the Commission's records.

Section 6. Voluntary Advisors. The Commission may invite outside advisors having specific expertise or interest useful to the Commission (a "Voluntary Advisor") to serve on committees or attend meetings of the Commission in a volunteer, non-compensated, advisory and non-voting capacity. Candidates for Voluntary Advisors may be recommended to the Chair by any current sitting Commission member. Recommendations for Voluntary Advisors shall be reviewed by the Executive Committee, and appointed by the Chair. Voluntary Advisors serve in an advisory capacity only, are not entitled to vote on matters before the Commission, may not count towards a quorum of the Commission, and are not entitled to any compensation. Voluntary Advisors shall at all times comply with the Maryland Public Ethics Law contained in Title 5, General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

ARTICLE V – Finances

Section 1. Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the Commission shall begin on July 1 and end on June 30 of the year following.

Section 2. Gifts. The Commission may solicit, accept, use, and dispose of donations, funds, and gifts in conformance with the Public Ethics Law, to support the goals and purposes of the Commission.

Section 3. Members Compensation. Members of the Commission may not receive any compensation for their services, but may be reimbursed for their reasonable expenses incurred in the performance of duties in accordance with the State Standard Travel Regulations and as provided in the State budget.

ARTICLE VI – Amendments of Bylaws

Section 1. Amendments. These Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds majority of the Commission. Proposed amendments must be submitted in advance and sent out with the regular Commission meeting announcement.

Section 2. Limitation. These Bylaws shall not be amended in a way that would make the Bylaws in any way inconsistent with the Executive Order. Any such amendment so adopted shall have no force or affect.

Maryland250 Commission Committees

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall have such duties and perform such functions as may be authorized by the Commission in the administration of the affairs of the Commission. It shall have the express authority to act on behalf of the Commission when such action is required prior to the next scheduled meeting of the Commission, or when a quorum of the Commission cannot be formed.

Chair: Nina Easton

Isiah Leggett

Robert McCord

Elizabeth Hughes

Patrick Lally

Nicholas Redding

Mark Letzer

Mark Wasserman

Elaine Rice Bachmann

Keith Colston

Private Partnerships

Purpose is to ensure there is sufficient support and financial resources for the Commission and its partners to accomplish its vision, mission, and goals.

Chair: Nicholas Redding

Tom Riford

Patrick Lally

Mark Letzer

Kris Hoellen

Reggie Turner

Judith Emmel

Senator Sarah Elfreth

Mark Wasserman

Education + Curriculum

Purpose is to engage K-12 and university audiences in activities of the Commission and to ensure the development of a model social studies curriculum about the Revolutionary War period, its impact on Maryland, and the diverse people who supported and participated in the country's fight for independence.

Chair: Bruce Lesh

Gregory Bartles

Angelica Bailey

Steven X. Lee

Voluntary Advisor: Katie Caljean

Inclusion + Engagement

Purpose is to coordinate, engage and liaise with diverse communities in order to prepare for, plan and execute commemorative activities that enhance our collective understanding of the past, present and future, and invite participation from all Marylanders.

Chair: Ike Leggett

Luis Borunda

Denise Nooe

Lindsey Baker

Jack Broderick

Keith Colston

Pete Leshner

Steven X. Lee

Resource Stewardship + Visitor Experience

Purpose is to identify historical and cultural resources associated with revolutionary acts and ideas in Maryland, support the development of interpretive themes and visitor experiences that tell an inclusive story of the ongoing enterprise of American democracy, and ensure a robust post-semiquincentennial legacy.

Chairs: Elizabeth Hughes + Joni Floyd

Elaine Rice Bachmann

Paul Webb

Robert McCord

Luis Luna

Hon. Joseph Getty

Nicholas Redding

Lindsey Baker

Communications + Marketing

Purpose is to develop and implement the Commission's strategic communications and marketing plan to promote the Commission's mission, vision, and goals and coordinate marketing efforts with other groups, including the America250 Commission.

Chair: Gene Deems

Nina Easton

Patrick Lally

Voluntary Advisors: Dave Abrams, Dana Cohen

Government Affairs

Purpose is to work closely with the Maryland General Assembly and other local and state elevated leaders to ensure they are engaged, aware, and in support of the Commission's mission and goals for commemoration in 2026.

Chair: Patrick Lally

Senator Sarah Elfreth

Mark Wasserman

Tom Riford

Pete Leshner

Angelica Bailey

Event Planning Workgroup

The purpose is to plan the Commission's first kick-off event in the summer of 2022.

Chairs: Elizabeth Hughes + Elaine Rice Bachmann

Isiah Leggett

Joni Floyd

Tom Riford

Maryland250 Commission Public Commenting Policy

Meetings of the MD250 (Maryland Semiquincentennial) Commission are open to the public. As part of its general operating procedure, the Commission offers an opportunity for the public to express their views at each meeting as part of a public comment period. Speakers are permitted to comment on any agenda item relevant to the business of the Maryland 250 Commission. Public comment will take place at the beginning of the regular meeting.

Comments are to be directed to the Commission as a whole. The public comment period is intended to provide an opportunity for the Commission to hear from members of the public. Commission Members may refer matters that arise to the Chair for investigation and/or follow-up. However, the Commission will not provide immediate responses to the public comments presented.

The maximum speaking time afforded to any individual speaking on any item of business relevant to the Maryland 250 Commission will be 3 minutes, unless otherwise indicated by the Chair. The Chair will moderate the comment period. Any person wishing to make comments during the public comment period shall sign a speakers list prior to the commencement of the meeting. The speakers list will be available at least 15 minutes before the scheduled start of the meeting, and it will be closed once the meeting begins. Persons who have not signed up prior to the start of the meeting will not be permitted to provide public comment.

Speakers shall identify themselves in writing on the speakers list by providing their name, contact information, organizational affiliation (if any), and the subject matter and/or agenda item to which their comments pertain. Public comments will be made in the order in which individuals signed up.

Commission Website + Communications

The Maryland250 Commission is currently using the following website as a temporary place to communicate and provide information to the public; the Commission plans to create a new interactive and multimedia website in 2022.

<https://goci.maryland.gov/md250/>

Maryland250 Commission Partnership with America250

The Commission has entered a partnership with the national organization America250 to facilitate coordination and collaboration, and to ensure the broadest possible participation and visibility during this historic commemoration. The partnership with America250 will allow Maryland's unique role in the American Revolution to receive national recognition and give the state commission access to federal level resources. Immediately, America250 will provide the Maryland250 Commission with a \$10,000 grant to be used in establishing the Commission. The grant funding will be used to create a multimedia, interactive webpage with the help of Preservation Maryland.

Maryland250 Commission Partnership with Preservation Maryland

The Commission is finalizing an agreement for partnership with Preservation Maryland, a 501c3 organization operating in the state of Maryland that focuses on preserving Maryland's heritage.

Maryland250 Commission Action Plan

The Maryland250 Commission is currently in the process of establishing Commission goals, mission, and recommendations. In two meetings held fall 2021, the following themes and areas of focus have been discussed:

Maryland250 Commission Focus

- Inclusion
 - To coordinate, engage and liaise with diverse communities in order to prepare for, plan and execute commemorative activities that enhance our collective understanding of the past, present and future, and invite participation from all Marylanders.
- Education
 - To engage K-12 and university audiences in activities of the Commission and to ensure the development of a model social studies curriculum about the Revolutionary War period, its impact on Maryland, and the diverse people who supported and participated in the country's fight for independence.
- Resource Stewardship
 - To identify historical and cultural resources associated with revolutionary acts and ideas in Maryland, support the development of interpretive themes and visitor experiences that tell an inclusive story of the ongoing enterprise of American democracy, and ensure a robust post-semiquincentennial legacy.
- Communications
 - Develop and implement the Commission's strategic communications and marketing plan to promote the Commission's mission, vision, and goals and coordinate marketing efforts with other groups, including the America250 Commission.
- Private Partnerships
 - In order to meet the Commission's mission and goals, there will need to be sufficient support and financial resources for the Commission and its partners.