

TOWN OF COLUMBIA

Resolution

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF COLUMBIA, CONNECTICUT, ESTABLISHING A SPECIAL EVENT COMMITTEE, KNOWN AS THE “AMERICA 250 | COLUMBIA CT COMMITTEE”; ESTABLISHING PURPOSE; CHARGE; MEMBERSHIP; REPRESENTATION; OFFICERS; MEETINGS; REPORTS; STAFF; MINUTES; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, on July 4, 1776, at a meeting of the Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia, delegates from Connecticut and 12 other colonies voted to declare independence from Great Britain; and

WHEREAS, on July 4, 2026, the United States of America will celebrate its 250th anniversary in every state across the country; and

WHEREAS, in order to commemorate and celebrate 250 years of independence the United States Congress created the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission in 2016 to plan and orchestrate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence of the United States; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission’s mission is to commemorate and celebrate our 250th anniversary with inclusive programs by sharing experiences that will ignite our imaginations, elevate our compelling stories, inspire service in our communities, and demonstrate the lasting durability of the American project; and

WHEREAS, on July 1, 2022, Governor Ned Lamont established the America 250 | CT Commission which is responsible for planning the State of Connecticut’s multi-year commemorations, celebrations, and reflections on the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence and the formation of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the America 250 | CT Commission has encouraged each town and city to plan local events celebrating the 250th Anniversary; and **WHEREAS**, the Board of Selectmen wishes to form a local committee to plan for events in Columbia commemorating the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of the Independence.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF
SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF COLUMBIA, CONNECTICUT THAT:**

Section One: Establishment; purpose; charge

- A) There is hereby created a temporary committee known as the America 250 | Columbia CT Committee. The purpose of the Committee is to plan and coordinate community events and displays commemorating the signing of the Declaration of Independence and celebrating Columbia's contributions, experiences, and history since that historic day that a new nation was formed on July 4, 1776.
- B) The Committee will coordinate with the America 250 | CT Commission and work together to explore how to best celebrate our residents and honor our Town's place in American history. The Committee will coordinate with community groups such as, but not limited to, the Columbia Historical Society, the Saxton B. Little Library, Horace Porter School, Veterans organizations, the Lions Club of Columbia, churches, and other civic groups in creating community events. The Committee will plan, coordinate, and sometimes may supervise these events during the yearlong celebration. The Committee may coordinate historic-themed educational displays throughout the Town celebrating America's successes and explaining America's challenges and how we as a Town, State, and Nation persevered. The Committee is charged to be creative in how our Town commemorates the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence and the American experience as lived by our residents, past and present, in Columbia, Connecticut.

Section Two: members; term; representation; officers

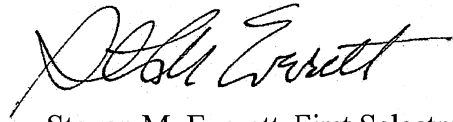
The Committee shall consist of at least six (6) members. The terms shall be for the life of the Committee, which is not to exceed December 31, 2026, unless extended by the Board of Selectmen by Resolution. Invited members could include the general public, members from any Columbia Boards or Commissions, Town Historian, Columbia Historical Society, Columbia Public Schools, and Saxton B. Little Library. The Committee shall elect a Vice Chair, who shall chair the meeting in the absence of the Chair. The Vice Chair shall be elected from among the remaining members. The Committee shall elect a Secretary who shall be responsible for the minutes and records of the Committee, and who may chair the Committee in the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair. The Secretary shall be elected from among the remaining members.

Section Three: meetings; reports; minutes; staff.

The Committee shall hold regular, publicly-noticed open meetings at least monthly and may hold additional special meetings as needed. The Chair and/or Vice Chair shall report periodically to the Board of Selectmen of the Committee's plans, progress, and activities. The Town Administrator may appoint a staff liaison as may be needed. Minutes shall be taken by the Committee Secretary or their designee and record of such minutes shall be kept in the office of the Town Clerk.

Passed and Adopted by the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Columbia, Connecticut on this 20th day of May 2025.

TOWN OF COLUMBIA BOARD OF SELECTMAN



Steven M. Everett, First Selectman



Attest:



Robin Kenefick, Town Clerk

