

INDIANA SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL COMMISSION

Commission Meeting Minutes

September 19, 2022

Commission Members present: Brig Gen Justin Mann (for Major Gen R Dale Lyles Indiana National Guard), Rep. Maureen Bauer (Indiana State Assembly), Sen. Jeff Raatz (Indiana State Senate), Sen. Michael Griffin (Indiana State Senate), Robert Sloman (American Revolution reenactors), Bruce Kolb (Civil War reenactors), Sheila Corcoran (Veterans of Foreign Wars), Ben Olsen (American Legion), Brig Gen J Stewart Goodwin (Indiana War Memorial), Joseph Wiltout (Boy Scouts of America), Dustin Warren (Fraternal Order of Eagles), Tamara Hemmerlein (for Jody Blankenship - Indiana Historical Society), Beth Brandon (Indiana Council of Social Studies), Ted Frantz (Indiana Humanities Council), Thomas Whiteman (Sons of American Revolution), Charlotte Blair (Daughters of the American Revolution)

Veterans Administration Staff present: Anthony Weber, Gabrielle Owens, Joe DeVito

Guests present: Sen. Dennis Kruse, Jeff Jones

The first meeting of the Indiana Semiquincentennial Commission (ISC) was called to order at 1:05 pm by Co-chairs Charlotte Blair and Thomas Whiteman. The meeting was held at the Indiana War Memorial in Indianapolis, Indiana.

The meeting was opened with an invocation, the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and The American's Creed.

Chair Blair gave brief history on the formation of the National 250 Commission. She also introduced Sen. Kruse who authored the legislation in Indiana for forming the Commission. Each of the co-chairs introduced themselves and shared a brief bio. After that, each of the Commission members, VA Staff and guests introduced themselves and talked a little about their background and how they were appointed to the Commission.

Chair Blair read a welcoming statement from Rosie Rios, the chair of the National Semiquincentennial Commission and a statement from Joseph Daniels, President of the National 250 Foundation.

Chair Whiteman shared a proposed vision, mission, and objectives for the ISC. Members were asked to read the suggested text and offer any additions or changes at the next meeting.

A copy of the Indiana bill creating this Commission was included in everyone's binder. The ISC bill specifies how the Commission members were selected and some of the responsibilities of the Commission. Members were asked to read this over before the next meeting.