

**Commission Meeting Minutes  
November 18, 2024**

**INDIANA SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL COMMISSION  
Commission Meeting Minutes  
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Commission Members and/or their Representatives Present: Tom Whiteman, Charlotte Blair, Bruce Kolb, Brigadier General J. Stewart Goodwin, Ben Olson, Beth Brandon, Amanda Holmquist, Ted Frantz, Tamara Hemmerlein, and IDVA Director Dennis Wimer.

A quorum of 10 ISC members were present (ISC By Laws Section X).

Members of the IDVA present: Gabrielle Owens, and Kyle Gross.

Guests: John Green (Senior President of C.A.R.), and Eunice Trotter, Director, Black Heritage Preservation Program at Indiana Landmarks.

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

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance, the American's Creed, and The Indiana Flag Salute.

The meeting was started by the Co-Chairs and a brief review of our Commission members and a welcome and introductions from our members.

A presentation was given by Eunice Trotter, Director, Black Heritage Preservation Program at Indiana Landmarks on Indiana's Black Heritage Preservation.

Co-Chair Tom Whiteman discussed how Washington, D.C. became the United States Capital and created the two-party system.

Co-Chair Charlotte Blair discussed Issac Wilson a Patriot of the American Revolution, and one of the original pioneer founders of what would become the City of Indianapolis.

The Secretary gave a brief report, minutes were read, seconded, and accepted.

Co-Chair Charlotte Blair spoke on the financial status of the ISC and gave the Treasurer's report. The report was read, seconded, and accepted.

Co-Chair Tom Whiteman spoke on the promotional products for Indiana's America250 with Hirons. The ISC members reviewed the revised proposals, and also the need for additional management services. ISC members were asked to forward any comments to Tom Whiteman by the end of the week.

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November 18, 2024**

Co-Chair Charlotte Blair reported that the ISC insurance policy has been renewed. The coverage of the policy was left essentially unchanged. The cost increased from \$1,329 (the previous year) to \$1,399 for November 1, 2024 to October 31, 2025.

Bruce Kolb gave an update on the ISC license plate (in progress and on time), and the draft of the ISC final report due on December 31, 2024.

Co-Chair Tom Whiteman spoke on the request to the 124<sup>th</sup> IGA for additional funding to cover the needs of the ISC from July 1, 2025, to December 31, 2026. There are meetings to be scheduled to talk with Sen. Mishler, Sen. Bray, Sen Taylor, Speaker of the House Huston, and House Minority Leader GiaQuinta. The ISC Co-Chairs have already met with Rep. Jeff Thompson, Chairman of the Indiana House Ways and Means Committee. Their ISC General Assembly Funding Request was fully discussed with Rep. Thompson.

Information will also be forthcoming regarding table(s) outside of the House and Senate Chambers to make everyone aware of the ISC and its mission. Dates are pending for the months of February and March of 2025. All Commission members are encouraged to be at the State House on those two days.

The ISC members each received a copy of the February 13, 2024, Senate Resolution 22.

Co-Chairs Charlotte Blair and Tom Whiteman spoke on the progress in completing the information request for the State Board of Accounts to receive a username and password to the Indiana Gateway system to file the required E-1.

Co-Chair Charlotte Blair spoke on the progress made with the County Committees and how they are established and the flow of communication to all 92 counties.

Co-Chair Charlotte Blair spoke on the American Battlefield Trust and their Traveling Display which will be arriving in Indiana this Fall. Currently it is planned for the display to travel to 5 Indiana locations for approximately 2 weeks per location. She also mentioned the ongoing role the American Battlefield Trust has in preservation of Historic Battlefield sites throughout the country.

Co-Chair Charlotte Blair let everyone know about the Two Lights for Tomorrow celebration on April 18-19, 2025. In Honor of Paul Revere, everyone is invited to place two lights in their windows on the 18<sup>th</sup> and November 19<sup>th</sup> is a National Day of Service.

Break

Individual Committee Meetings were held and followed their respective agendas.

The Meeting was adjourned at 3:00pm.

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Tom Whiteman, Co-Chair

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Date

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Charlotte Blair, Co-Chair

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Date