



**South Carolina American Revolution
Sestercentennial Commission
Full Commission Meeting
Friday, May 15, 2026
Horry County Museum
805 N. Main Street
Conway, South Carolina 29526**

Meeting Link:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83509976168?pwd=jj5bvvsqyyClS1QadFpHA7hc4UI6Klv.1>

Meeting ID: 835 0997 6168 Passcode: 925452 Dial 1-646-558-8656

Contact Heather Hawkins at hhawkins@southcarolina250.com or call 803-898-3391 with questions.

ALL EVENTS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

All Events Open to the Public:

Thursday, May 15, 2025

10:00 AM- Meet at the Horry County Museum. American Revolution History Talk and Activities around Conway

5:30 PM- Meet and Greet at Horry County Museum

7:00 PM Continue the Conversation with a Dutch Supper

Friday, May 15, 2026

Horry County Museum

9:30 A.M. – Coffee / Lite Bites

10:00 A.M. – SC250 Commission Meeting

12:00 P.M. – Lunch

1:00 P.M. – SC250 Commission Meeting

Proposed Agenda

9:45 A.M.

Welcoming Remarks: Our hosts from Horry County

Moment of Reflections: Ms. Dianne Culbertson, Chaplain

10:00 A.M.

1. Call to Order and Introductions/Welcome to Guests and Dignitaries– Chairman Grimsley

2. Roll Call and Declaration of Quorum – CEO Molly Fortune and Vice Chairman Davies

V. 1.1 MLF

5/7/2026

Horry Meeting

3. Board and Commission Appointment Updates

4. Confirmation the Notice of Meeting and Proposed Agenda has been posted in Compliance with FOIA – CEO, Molly Fortune

5. Adoption of Proposed Agenda – Chairman Grimsley

6. Public Comments

7. Approval of Consent Agenda Items: (Attachment A)

- a. Approval of Minutes of February 18, 2026
- b. Financial Update Commission Budget FY 25-26

8. FY 26-27 Budget Process

- a. Updates regarding legislative funding for FY 26-27

9. SC250 Event Planning & Updates

- a. Staff Reports (**Attachment B**)
- b. Full Team Planning Retreat Recap- Hurricane 250
- c. Coordination with America 250 & Key Stakeholders
- d. Planning for Carolina Days 2026 & Long-Term Legacy Events
 - i. Statewide Planning- Authenticity
 - ii. Charleston 250 Planning- SC250 Charleston
 - iii. Approval of not to exceed \$275,000 to the Charleston Literary Festival for the two day events co-sponsored by the Ditchley Foundation.
- e. Upcoming Events
 - i. Commission and Partners Eblast

10. Marketing and PR

- a. AuthenticITY
 - i. Revamped website
 - ii. Baseball Engagements
 - iii. Other Engagements, Events, Activations, Touch points

11. Education & Research - Ms. Fortune and Ms. Pemberton

- a. SC Students- projects and awards
- b. Getting the Word out- Resources
 - i. Revamped website
 - ii. Trifolds
 - iii. Activity Bags
- c. Summer 2026
 - i. CoSi Science Boxes
 - ii. CCTI (Charleston Colonial Teachers Institute) and expansion
 - iii. Palmetto Education Summit
 - iv. Dept of Education Summer Passports
- d. Looking Ahead

V. 1.1 MLF

5/7/2026

Horry Meeting

- i. Planning for the Fall educational programs at Discovery Center
- ii. Liberty Day at the State House- January 2027

12. Acquisition, Preservation, Conservation and Interpretation of Revolutionary War Sites & Updates – Mr. Tyler, Mr. Gaines, Mr. Wise, Ms. Noyes

- a. Hobkirk Hill
 - i. May 18 Event
- b. Status of:
 - i. Commodor Gillion event and land opening
 - ii. New land acquisitions
 - iii. In progress land acquisitions
 - iv. In progress interpretation of sites

13. Publications and Historian- Ms. Sharpe and Mr. Rubin

- a. Sumter Papers
- b. Lord Rawdon Papers
- c. Updates to FM Papers after release of Volume III
- d. Review of interpretation and documents for grants and projects

Lunch service at noon

14. Grant Program– Ms. Hawkins (Attachment C)

- a. Recap of FY2026 Grant Program – Parina Patel / Heather Hawkins
- b. Grants Approved by the CEO (up to \$15,000) since February 18, 2026
- c. Grant Applications Approved by Executive Committee since February 18, 2026
- d. Grants Not Approved since February 18, 2026
- e. Grants in Due Diligence since February 18, 2026

Applications Requiring Commission Votes Follows

- f. Major Grants
 - i. Local Activities Grant- Major Grant
 - 1. \$23,500 Penn Center American Revolution in the Lowcountry: The Gullah Geechee Experience (Beaufort Co.)
 - 2. \$87,874.56 Catawba Indian Nation Catawba Lifeways and Involvement in the American Revolution (York Co.)
 - 3. \$125,000 Sumter County Government (on behalf of Patriot Hall) Carolina Days: Sumter 250 (Sumter Co.)
 - ii. Museum & Library Style Exhibit Grant
 - 1. \$49,899-Middleton Place Foundation Enhancing and Expanding the Conversations of Freedom: The American Revolution at Middleton Place Exhibition (Dorchester Co.)
 - 2. \$125,000 Parris Island Heritage Foundation Revolutionary War Exhibit Renovation (Beaufort Co.)
 - 3. *Information on application:* \$49,899 Middleton Place Foundation (Dorchester Co.)
 - iii. Education Grant
 - 1. \$125,000 Historyman Comics The Rise of Francis Marion Novel Animation (Kershaw Co.)
- g. Premier Projects with Presentations
 - i. Local Activities Grant-Premier Project

- 1. \$300,000 Colour of Music Festival Black Artistry During the Revolutionary Era: A Chamber Orchestra Tour (Charleston Co.)
- ii. Historic Tourism & Marketing Grant
 - 1. \$137,250 WeGOJA Foundation Blacks in the Revolutionary War in South Carolina- a travel guide (Richland Co.)
- iii. Museum & Library Style Exhibit
 - 1. \$175,000 Florence County Administration (on behalf of Florence County Museum) Revolutionary War Exhibit Renovations (Florence Co.)
- iv. Education Grant
 - 1. \$300,000 Sprit of South Carolina Harbor of Revolution: South Carolina's Maritime War for Independence An immersive maritime educational experience aboard the Spirit of South Carolina (Charleston Co.)
- h. Upcoming FY26 Deadlines
 - i. Monthly (up through \$15,000) Grants June 1
 - ii. Major (\$15,001-\$125,000) & Premier (\$125,001+) June 26
- i. Looking forward to FY27

15. Collaboration & Stakeholder Engagement

- a. SC American Revolutionary Trust – Mr. Tom Persons
- b. National Park Service – Superintendent Diana Bramble
- c. SC Parks, Recreation, & Tourism – Director Duane Parrish
- d. SC Department of Archives & History – Dr. Eric Emerson

16. General Updates & Other Business

- a. Commission Committees
 - i. Executive Committee
 - ii. Finance & Grants Committee
 - iii. Education Committee
 - iv. Revolutionary War Scholars Advisory Committee

17. Upcoming Commission Meetings

- a. Oconee County – Monday, August 24, 2026 / Tour + Meet & Greet Sun, Aug. 23
- b. Orangeburg County

18. Executive Session (If required and meets South Carolina Law)

2:00 PM – Adjournment

Attachments

Attachment A: Minutes and Financials

Attachment B: Staff Reports

Attachment C: Grants