

Wyoming Semiquincentennial (250th) Meeting

February 9, 2024, 9:00 a.m.

Wyoming State Museum

Meeting #3

AGENDA

*Call to Order - Representative Sandy Newsome, Task Force Chairman

*Roll Call - Kate Barlow

- Justice Kari Gray
- Senator Schuler
- Rep. Newsome
- Nick Neylon
- Diane Shober
- Greg Blikre
- Cindy Brown
- Kevin Voyles
- Joanna Kail
- Shawn Reese
- Rebecca West
- Superintendent Degenfelder
- Dr. Flesher
- Teresa His Chase

*Update from the Chairman: Will cover most stuff later

*Committee Reports

Theme Committee: Rebecca West (shared screen)

Working with the marketing committee - shared several options with an outside opinion waiting for feedback.

- Wyoming 250: A Declaration of Imagination
- US @ 250: Wyoming's Declaration of Imagination:
- Committee discussed thoughts: consensus that US @ 250: Wyoming's Declaration of Imagination
- Kate going to run by the Governor before next meeting and let group know

- Marketing Committee going to be moved to other committees - Kevin Voyles would like to join the community engagement committee

Timeline/Scheduling Committee: Representative Newsome

- Have final schedule through 2024
- Next Meeting: March 11th, Cheyenne
- May 13th, Cody

Community Outreach Committee: Shawn Reese

3 main areas of focus 1) Looking at Bicentennial certification of local commissions - allowed them to access federal funding - talking to WAM and WCCA for feedback; 2) Ideas for local guidebook based on themes - guidance and resources (partners and technical assistance); 3) Looking at ideas for statewide programs, activities, contest - songs, poems, state bear, traveling projects, commemorative maps, etc.

- Going to need to start reaching out to partners
- Discussed how Timeline/Governor approval will work - understand that there are things that will have to be approved along the way not just when the report is complete
- Kevin elaborated on Bison art concept
- Bicentennial document collection - something the Archives might be interested in putting together? - Cindy it going to talk with the Archive about the idea.

250th Events at the Capitol Committee: Justice Gray Full report below

Capitol is independently working on wayfinding - partner with them to work 250th into some of there on going projects. Many on the committee were apart of the capitol opening, there are a lot of materials that we should be able to use.

2025 - start a series of events leading up to 2026 making the capitol the central point but including the whole complex and the depot. Coordinate with Visit Cheyenne, CFD, City of Cheyenne.

K-12 Curriculum Committee: Superintendent Degenfelder

Met recently, thing in she strategic plan that fit with this task force, existing curriculum that can be leveraged

- Teachers conference focused on Wyoming - soft launch this summer then in 2025 focus on the theme
- Tying existing events together (history day, etc.)

Marketing Committee: Diane Shober

Have not met since the last meeting, waiting on theme.

- Internal informing other Committees
- External tourism marketing
- Concerned about technological infrastructure - website, repository of information for archival purposes,
- Communication strategies

Fundraising/Grants/Legislative Appropriation Committee: Representative Newsome and Nick Neylon

JAC put \$2 million out of the tourism fund, Newsome and Schuler going to run mirror amdts. for special projects fund - need to be sure footnote is not too restrictive to allow for grants and agency transfers.

***Old Business**

- 250th grant processed and money is on the way.
- SPCR has started to rough out a grant process - need to be ready if the legislature approves appropriation
- There are additional federal funds that could be available
- Dr. Flesher - idea to funnel money to other groups that have grassroots connections (historical societies, museums, etc.) - Organizations are able and willing

***New Business**

Humanities and State Library invited to DC for sharing stories and listening to each other.
America's Field Trip

Website - SPRC is looking in to option with ETS -

- Public facing - state system has too many firewalls
- Nick and Shober going to meeting to discuss technological infrastructure

Task Force decided to just have a logo created instead of doing a logo contest

*Next meeting date and time - Monday, March 11, 2024, 10:00 a.m., Wyoming State Museum

Action Items:

- Kate Running Theme by Governor
- Cindy taking document book back to Archives
- Kate looking in to fundraising question - does it req
- Next meeting - conversation about granting out of funding - funnel through organizations or grant directly out

- Nick, Shober, Rep. Newsome going to work on technological infrastructure
- Shober going to vet and secure theme (copyright, url, etc.)

Capitol Subcommittee Meeting Report
Wyoming's U.S. Semiquincentennial Task Force
January 30, 2024

The Capitol Subcommittee met on January 30, 2024. Attending were Kari Gray (Chair), Riana Davidson, Wendy Madsen, Nick Neylon, Mike O'Donnell, Sara Sheen, and Diane Shober.

The committee determined that we would focus on various events and activities beginning July 2025 and continuing through July 2026 with a culminating celebration at the Capitol on July 4, 2026. The committee brainstormed ideas which can be refined and expanded when a theme is determined. Wendy and Riana compiled a list of the lead-in activities identified by the committee and also a list of activities that could potentially take place on July 4, 2026, at the Capitol. The potential July 4 activities were separated into outside and inside events. Finally, the committee considered Capitol complex tie-in events to include the Wyoming Supreme Court, the State Museum, the Historic Governor's Mansion, and the Union Pacific Depot. The compilation of the committee's ideas are attached to this report. The committee recognizes that the compiled list does not currently address the months between January and June of 2026. Certain activities span more than one month, additional activities may be added, and existing ideas may be retimed to account for gaps. At the same time, the committee believes the activities should gradually intensify as the culmination approaches, and early months are expected to have less activity.

Certain committee members had significant roles in the Capitol Re-opening Celebration. This is fortuitous because they have access to logistical planning and budget materials. These members are currently reconfiguring those materials as the foundation and budget for use in this project. Our next meeting is scheduled for March 19, 2024, at 1:00 p.m. We look forward to incorporating any input from the Committee of the Whole.