

**TOWN OF WESTERLY MEETING NOTICE 250TH COMMISSION FOR THE
SEMIQUINCENTENNIAL**

AGENDA

Tuesday, March 31, 2026, at 5:30 P.M. Board of Canvassers Conference Room, 1st Floor
Westerly Town Hall 45 Broad Street Westerly, RI

1. Call to Order Discussion and Possible Action
2. Approval of minutes from March 10th & March 18th meetings
3. Revolutionary Ball: Recap, what did we do well and what we could do better.
4. Kids event in Wilcox Park, planning, update and possible action.
 - Political and activist organization participation. South County League of Women’s Voters
5. Drone event, planning, update and possible action.
 - Need soundtrack – Seth and Caswell
 - Food trucks – Caswell
 - Simulcast - WBLQ
 - Band – Caswell
 - Sound guy – Caswell
 - National anthem singer – Caswell
 - Speech – Michael Niemeyer
7. Westerly 250 Caps, planning, update and possible action.
8. Liberty Tree Event – April 24th, 2026, planning, update and possible action. See attached communication from Alan Peck.
 - a. Tulip Poplar is a descendent of the most famous surviving Liberty Tree from the American Revolution was a Tulip Poplar (*Liriodendron tulipifera*) that stood on the campus of St. John’s College in Annapolis, Maryland. This tree was already massive and centuries old during the Revolution, serving as a central gathering place for the Sons of Liberty and other patriots. It became a living witness to key moments in American history, including protests, debates, and celebrations of independence.
9. Panel Event – planning, update and possible action
 - Report on Zoom planning meeting of 3/20/26 with Professors Dotolo, Guzik and MacGreagor.
 - Topics- figure 10 minutes each
 - Dr. MacGreagor: RI shipwrights, Battle of Valcour Island, Oct 1776, and welcome to NY.
 - Dr. Guzik: *Ask no Quarter vs. Drums along the Mohawk.*
 - Dr. Dotolo: Rhode Islanders in the colonial Marines outside of RI.

- Dr. Vacca: Post-revolution migration to NYS.

10. Washington Trust Foundation grant, discussion on the grant terms and possible action.

11. Other events – Planning, update and possible action on the following 250th events listed in our calendar.

3/22/2026	Music of Early America
4/15/2026	Nathanael Greene Westerly Library & Wilcox Park
4/18/2026	Militia and Privateer Enlistment
4/24/2026	Westerly Liberty Tree planting
4/26/2026	Recognizing the Enslaved in Westerly
5/2/2026	RI Independence Day (May 4th)
5/3/2026	The Conspiracy to Destroy the British Revenue Schooner Gaspee in 1772
5/17/2026	Honoring the Diversity of Westerly's Forgotten Patriots
5/17/2026	Babcock Portraits by Joseph Blackburn
5/24/2026	Memorial Day Parade
6/20/2026	Summer POPS patriotic fanfare
6/17/2026	Philip Freneau's War Poetry Reading
7/4/2026	Burial of Time Capsule and reading of the Declaration of Independence
9/13/2026	Early Currency in Our Area

9/18/2026	Test Act reenactment
10/11/2026	Columbus Day Parade
10/17/2026	Historian Panel Discussion - The Revolutions impact on small communities - 1pm
November	Veterans Day Parade
TBD	Town Hall Document Display
TBD	Potential Samuel Ward mural in Ward Hall

12.

13. New Business

14. Next meeting date

15. Adjournment