



George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee (GWBC)

Monday, June 22, 2026

7:00 PM

VIRTUAL CALL

Minutes

Attendance: Sue Johnson, Michele Longo, Peter Duggan, Jake Sweely, Colin Eilts, Carol Myers, Sebastian Feitl, Patrick Wilson, Tyler Vanice, Paul Friedman, Casey Clark, Steve Konya, Sandra Welch, Jeanne Jacob, Edgar Bates, Tom Roth (guest)

Excused: Hunter Ihrman, Lauren Augustine, Will Hannifan, Carol Myers

- 1) The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm.
- 2) Motion to approve May 18, 2026 minutes made by Patrick Wilson, second by Jeanne Jacob. The Committee approved the minutes.
- 3) Chair's Report—New member Paul Friedman (Citizen Member) was introduced to the Committee. Sue provided historical media reports of the George Washington Birthday Parade before and after the Civil War.
- 4) Marketing and Public Relations Report—Sue, with help from Lauren Augustine, now has access to the GWBC Meta Platform. She is finishing our social media policy guidelines.
- 5) VA250, Alexandria250 (ALEX250) and other community reports:
 - a) GWBC booth at Alexandria Sails on the Potomac—Sunday June 14, 1200- 1600. Sue thanked the Committee volunteers for their efforts. The 2026 Parade Banner was used at our table and Flyers with doner QR Code were displayed as well as a George Washington private tour raffle event was offered. Giveaways included magnetic clips with GW Parade logos on them. Fifty-two people participated in the raffle.
 - b) Alexandria Sails on the Potomac—Michele Longo reported the event was successful event for the City with over 12,000 people touring the ships. Over two hundred staff and volunteers supported the event.
 - c) Other Alexandria 250 events—Upcoming events include Alexandria City's 250th Anniversary Celebration scheduled on July 11, and Gadsby's Tavern game night on July 3rd.
- 6) Unfinished Business
 - a) Potential 2027 Parade Themes—The final decision on 2027 parade theme should be decided by our July meeting. Themes that have been discussed all continue the 250th Anniversary theme by recognizing significant events/developments in 1777.
 - b) 2027 Sponsorships and Fundraising—The 2027 Sponsorship Package has been completed, and is similar to the 2026 Sponsor Package. The Committee discussed the potential of holding a raffle of tickets to an event as an additional fundraising source.
 - c) Sue is preparing our official request to the city for their 2027 contribution.

7. New Business

- a) 2025-26 Annual Report—All Committee members who were responsible for a 2025-2026 GWBCC event should submit a summary of the event to Sue, with photos, to be included in the Committee's 2025-26 Annual Report due in the fall.
- 8. For the Good of the Cause—SAR and the 1st VA Regiment will be at Mt Vernon on the 4th of July supporting Mt Vernon 250th Events. There will also be a reading of the Declaration of Independence at the National Archives on 4th of July. Next GWBCC meeting on July 20th at 7 pm at Lloyd House.
- 9. Adjournment—The meeting adjourned at 8:11. Motion made by Paul Freidman, second by Jeanne Jacob.