



George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee (GWBCC)

Monday, August 17, 2026

7:00 PM

Lloyd House

220 N. Washington Street

Minutes

Attendance: Sue Johnson, Michele Longo, Peter Duggan, Jake Sweely, Sebastian Feitl (Zoom), Sandra Welch, Jeanne Jacob, Will Hannifan, Lauren Augustine, Edgar Bates, Paul Friedman

Excused: Colin Eilts, Carol Myers

Unexcused: Steve Konya, Tyler Vanice, Casey Clark, Patrick Wilson

Guest: Tom Roth

- 1) The meeting was called to order at 7:06pm.
- 2) Presentation of 10-year service award to Kristen Eastlick-- Sue Johnson presented Kristen Eastlick a 10-Year Appreciation Award at the expiration of her 10-year term on the Committee.
- 3) Motion was made to approve the July 20, 2026 minutes made by Edgar Bates, second by Sandra Welch. The Committee approved the minutes.
- 4) Chair's Report – Sue started the meeting with a summary of George Washington's 1798 Birthnight celebration in Alexandria.
- 5) Marketing and Public Relations Report –Sue briefed the Committee on the Social Media Content Calendar through November 15, and passed it out to the Committee. The Calendar will include but not be limited to Fun Facts on George Washington, 250th Anniversary posts, GW Parade History, parade announcements, event announcements, fundraising, and sponsorship appreciations. It will also include videos by Committee members, two of which have been filmed. The next Contact Calendar will cover November 15 up to Parade Day.
- 6) VA250, Alexandria250 (ALEX250) and other community reports –Michele Longo stated that the Annual Alexandria Forum will be at the Alexandria History Museum on Friday 18 Sept from 8:30 a.m.– 5 p.m. Forum will include several speakers discussing the Revolutionary War in Alexandria.
- 7) Unfinished Business
 - a. Potential 2027 Parade Grand Marshal – Peter Duggan briefed the Committee on his meeting with the First Virginia Regiment Leadership and their acceptance of their nomination as the Grand Marshal for the 2027 George Washington Birthday Parade. Sue Johnson then made a motion to name the First Virginia Regiment as the Grand Marshal. Second by Paul Friedman. The Committee passed the motion.
 - b. 2027 Sponsorships and Fundraising – Sponsorship package is complete. Sue will begin to contact past sponsors. The Committee then discussed additional potential sources of

sponsorship. The Duvall House Fundraiser is still scheduled for Sat Nov 7th. The Committee discussed ways to increase attendance at the event.

- c. 2025-26 Annual Report – Annual report to the City due Oct 2, 2026. Sue is still gathering reports from Committee members.
- d. 2027 Parade Participant outreach – Sue contacted the Washington Commanders Band, and they are available to march in the parade again. The committee discussed other potential performance groups.

8. New Business

- a. 2027 Parade announcement – Parade registration is scheduled to be in November.
- b. Sue will be meeting with Mayor Gaskins and City Manager Jim Parajon on Sept 1 to discuss the city's financial contribution and to confirm the date of the parade.

9. For the Good of the Cause–Next GWBCC meeting is 21 September at 7 pm at Lloyd House

10. Adjournment -- The meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm. Motion made by Jeanne Jacob, second by Edgar Bates.