



IMPROVEMENT THROUGH EDUCATION & NETWORKING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

December 15, 2025

HAPPY BIRTHDAY DAVID!!

PRESENT: President Mike Movius, Vice President Carol VanOrnum, Secretary/Treasurer Bill Miller, Directors Curt Fields, Steven Rauschkolb, Andrew Miszak, Jared Peatman, Melissa Winn, David Hamon, and Cheryl McAuley

I. WELCOME: President Mike Movius called the Meeting to order at 6:04 PM EST.

I. CORPORATE BUSINESS

- a. Meeting Minutes: November 17 Meeting Minutes: Approved as corrected.
- b. Treasurer's Report: Approved.
- c. Committee Reports:
 - Ambassador: Curt reported that he recently made remarks to promote the mission of the CWRT Congress during a presentation to the Cumberland County CWRT. He noted that this Round Table is supportive of the CWRT Congress. He also noted that he received the package of CWRT Congress promotional documents which Steve had forwarded for his distribution use.
 - Communications: Carol stated that the preparation of the February publication of *The Light Post* is in progress. It will feature the second part of Curt's interview, and a focus on Board member Melissa Winn. She also stated she is beginning to collect material for the forthcoming Annual Report. Carol closed with the comment that Mike will be updating photographs of Board members, probably during the ECW event in August. Mike urged her to also include an article that welcomes Cheryl to the board AND another one to announce that Steve is now a Vice President.
 - Marketing: Steve advised that he recently mailed a package containing CWRT Congress marketing brochures, Conference rack cards and buttons to each Board member for distribution to their local Round Tables. He also noted that he is exploring various methodologies to track sponsors of the Congress.
 - Outreach: Andrew stated that he is assembling a calendar list to promote Civil War history events in the Ohio region to provide to local Round Tables. He also noted that the Ohio History Alliance has scheduled regional history programs in the forthcoming months of March through May. He noted that Ohio will be supporting regional history activities in conjunction with National History Day.

- Sustainability Challenge: David reported that he will be evaluating potential improvements to the format and criteria of the Sustainability Challenge to promote and encourage more widespread involvement of local Round Tables.
- d. 2026 Meeting Schedule: Mike advised that he has forwarded the 2026 Board Meeting Schedule to each Board member. He subsequently reissued the Schedule with a revision to include the access information.

II. INITIATIVES – *Relentless Mission Focus*

- a. Annual Fund: Mike briefly noted that our 2025 Annual Fund campaign will be implemented during the March to May timeframe. The board selected a template for the 2025 report.
- b. Giving Tuesday: Mike noted that we exceeded our original Giving Tuesday goal with the collection of \$6,059.00. He further noted that he sent 50% of the contributions to the American Battlefield Trust.
- c. Grant Program: Mike asked that a Board member step forward to undertake leadership of this new initiative. There was no response. Mike said that although the board may choose to continue or begin a project, a board member will be needed to lead the endeavor.
- d. Legacy Giving: After Mike sent the idea of CWRTC starting a giving legacy campaign, he received a caution from Jared that it would be in the best interest of CWRTs to start such a program themselves. Mike said that of the Giving Tuesday donors, almost exactly 1/2 were not CWRT members. He suggested that we might do both in the future.

III. CARNEGIE/CARNEGIE - April 17-18th

- a. Attendance: Board members were requested to confirm their intent to attend this event. Those who will accompany Mike are Andrew, Melissa, and David.
- b. Symposium registration: Those planning to attend were encouraged to complete the registration as soon as possible.
- c. CWRTC display: Mike noted the intent to establish a display table in order to promote our August Conference and our other outreach activities.

IV. ECW PRE-SESSION – AUGUST 7th

- a. Attendance: Board members were requested to confirm their intent to attend the Conference.
- b. ECW registration: Those planning to attend were encouraged to complete the registration as soon as possible.
- c. Room layout: The proposed Basement area has seating for 40 individuals with an overall capacity of 80 attendees.

V. 2026 CONFERENCE – AUGUST 28-30, 2026

- a. Conference Registration: Developed by Mike and Carol.
 - i. Fee absorption: Discussion among Board members led to recommendation to increase the registration fee by \$10.00 to absorb the onerous processing fee.
 - ii. Author Costs: Carol suggested the establishment of a display table charge of \$20 for the Friday reception.
- b. Marketing: Steve advised that he will be developing a video to promote the Conference.
- c. Giuseppe's Report: Mike established the catering scope and costs to be resolved no later than December 31.
- d. Conference Shirts: There was a general discussion about shirts for Board members. There was a consensus that polo shirts would be more appropriate than T shirts. The color choice leaned toward black, and shirt sizes will require individual input to Mike for ordering .

VI. CLOSE: After final comments from individual Board members, the Meeting was adjourned by President Mike Movius at 7:31 PM EST.