



IMPROVEMENT THROUGH EDUCATION & NETWORKING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 27, 2026

PRESENT: President Mike Movius, Vice President Carol VanOrnum, Vice President Steven Rauschkolb, Secretary/Treasurer Bill Miller, Directors Andrew Mizensak, David Hamon, Jared Peatman, and Cheryl McAuley.

GUEST: Doug Risher

EXCUSED: Directors Curt Fields and Melissa Winn

I. WELCOME: President Mike Movius opened the meeting at 3:05 PM Pacific.

II. CORPORATE BUSINESS

- a. Meeting Minutes: Meeting Minutes: Approved.
- b. Treasurer's Report: Approved
- c. Committee Reports:
 - i. Ambassador: No report
 - ii. Communications/Grants: Carol reminded Andrew of the May 9 submission date for his ECW article. She noted that she will reach out to the 2025 Grant recipients after their updates have been published in the May issue of *The Light Post* to confirm their attendance to the Conference.
 - iii. Marketing/Sponsors: Steve has been distributing materials, including rack cards and pins for the 2026 Conference to the Carnegie Conference, Mike, Andrew and the Antietam Institute. He will be sending materials to the Civil War Institute, including 400 pins and rack cards. He has also produced a full page ad for the CWI Journal. He has begun to prepare the programs for our Summer Conference, which will be of a smaller size than in 2025, and is preparing a Conference ad for *The Light Post*. Finally, Steve concluded that the issue with respect to the Table Banner has been resolved.
 - iv. Outreach: Andrew reported that nine Round Tables as well as other historical organizations received our information materials about sustainability at a recent multi-county America250 event. He concluded by stating that he will be traveling throughout Ohio and spreading the news of our Conference.
 - v. Recognition: David met with Jared and Mike to discuss the format for the panel discussion at the ECW Symposium. He noted discussions about membership rewards, to include recognition for new members as well as recognition to highlight continuing service for older members.

III. INITIATIVES – *Relentless Mission Focus*

- a. Facebook Birthday Fundraiser: Cheryl noted that she has established this initiative for a couple of years, the latest of which had limited success. Mike encouraged each Board member to consider this outreach initiative as a unique fundraiser.
- b. Annual Fund (March - May): Mike noted the receipt of \$5,013 contributions to date and noted that the fund program will continue through May 31.
- c. Audit (Doug Risher): Mike introduced Doug Risher to the Board and advised that he has requested Doug's services to audit our finances. Doug, Mike and Bill will conduct the audit on May 4th.
- d. Bluehost Issues: Mike reported issues with malware and other inconveniences that portend the possible termination of service with Bluehost unless improvements are quickly implemented.

IV. CARNEGIE/CW Symposium Report: Mike & Melissa attended. Mike noted that the Congress benefitted from plenty of recognition.

V. ECW PRE-SESSION – AUGUST 7th

- a. Registrations as of 4/22 = 42
- b. Process Reports: Jared outlined the evolving agenda of audience engagement to focus upon recruitment, a video, best practices, membership activities, retention history, and civic engagement. David reiterated comments made earlier.

VI. 2026 CONFERENCE – AUGUST 28-30, 2026

- a. Event Registration = 11 as of 4/22: Mike expressed concern regarding the lack of registration activity. He provided a spreadsheet of CWRTs closest to Petersburg and sought volunteers to contact leaders by phone to promote the registration process. .
- b. Logo Patches: Mike asked to include the Conference Logo on call recipient's Newsletter and Facebook pages.
- c. Leader List & Explanation: Based upon Mike's Contact list the following selections were made: Carol (A); Andrew(F); David (H&I); Jared(G); Bill(D); Cheryl(B&C). The following Board members have indicated their willingness to record an appeal to be aired on the following dates: David (05/15); Jared (06/05); Andrew (06/19); Melissa (07/10). The 06/26 date remains available.

VII. CLOSE: After final comments from individual Board members, the Meeting was adjourned by President Mike Movius at approximately 4:19 PM Pacific.