

**IX. New Business**

**A. America 250 Background – Information item**

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The Idaho Commission for Libraries has been asked to support the America 250 project along with several other state agencies, including the Idaho State Historical Society, Idaho Public Television, Idaho Commission on the Arts, Idaho Department of Commerce/Tourism, Governor's Office, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, and Idaho Department of Education.

The purpose of the U.S. Semiquincentennial Commission, created by Congress, and the corresponding America250 Foundation is to catalyze a more perfect union by designing and leading the most comprehensive and inclusive celebration in our country's history. America 250 represents a coalition of public and private partners working to create initiatives and programs that honor our first 250 years and inspire Americans to imagine our next 250. The commemoration period began in 2020, culminates on July 4, 2026, and officially concludes in 2027. More information can be found at <https://www.america250.org>.

The State Librarian has participated in three meetings with the planning group to prepare for Idaho's role commemorating the U.S. Semiquincentennial and determine steps to deliver a recommended approach to Governor Little. It is likely the lead agency, the Idaho State Historical Society, will secure additional funding to support a few larger initiatives. Each participating agency, including the ICfL, may recommend smaller projects that support the America 250 goals. The Historical Society has asked if our respective board chairs would be interested in serving in an advisory capacity at meetings convened during the next two years. This has yet to be approved, but the ICfL wanted to provide some background information in advance of those decisions.