



# Town of Sudbury

## Historical Commission

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### MINUTES March 10, 2026

Members present: Chair Chris Hagger, Vice-Chair Michael Wallace, Treasurer Chris Durall, Stephen Greenstein, William Andreas, Steven Greene, Jan Costa, Kim Burns

Absent: Marjorie Katz

Others Present: Planning & Zoning Coordinator Beth Perry

Mr. Hagger opened the Historical Commission meeting at 6:30 PM. Roll Call was taken: Hagger-present, Andreas-present, Durall-present, Greene-present, Wallace-present, Costa-present, Greenstein-present, Burns-present

Mr. Hagger promoted Mr. Greene to voting status for tonight's meeting.

#### **317 Old Lancaster Road under the Sudbury Demolition Delay**

Present: Owner Nikhil Bhosrekar, 317 Old Lancaster Road

Mr. Hagger presented history of 317 Old Lancaster Road; adding that the property was historically surveyed in 1995. He acknowledged the house is a Greek revival-style home built in 1851. Mr. Hagger stated the main body of the house is closest to the road, with two wings behind the body of the house, and only one of the wings being historic. The house is associated with a former historic adjacent saw and grist mill.

Mr. Hagger stated the application was received on 2/18/26 and SHC conducted a site visit on 2/26/26.

Mr. Andreas inquired about the historic portion of the building. Mr. Hagger replied the front part of the structure was historic.

Mr. Hagger stated the applicant indicated there would be changes to the front and rear of the historic building, which would require that additional plans needed to be submitted and a public hearing would be scheduled.

Mr. Bhosrekar stated the door on the side of the house would be replaced.

Ms. Costa stated the historic part of the house reflects a unique piece of history because it was associated with the former historic saw and grist mill.

**Mr. Hagger motioned under the Sudbury Delay Bylaw; the Sudbury Historical Commission conducted a site inspection on 2/26/26 of the property at 317 Old Lancaster Road and determined on 3/10/26 that the house is historically significant, and a partial demolition plan must be submitted to the SHC prior to the issuance of a demolition permit. Ms. Costa seconded the motion. It was on**

**motion 7-0; Wallace-aye, Hagger-aye, Andreas-aye, Costa-aye, Durall-aye, Greenstein-aye, Burns-aye.**

**Eagle Scout Project**

Present: Eagle Scout Theo Bowne, 16 Rice Road

Mr. Bowne stated that he received approval of the project from the Sudbury Historic District Commission, and he plans to start construction in April. He also indicated that he would be adding an acrylic covering to the sign, as recommended by the SHC.

Mr. Hagger inquired about adding information to the sign. Mr. Bowne replied the design can be adjusted to allow for changes to the sign.

Mr. Andreas stated a cover would be needed to discourage graffiti.

Mr. Andreas inquired about the post base of the kiosk at the Revolutionary War Cemetery. Ms. Costa replied the base is a National Parks-approved metal base.

**Sherman's Bridge Reconstruction Project including Kiosk/Signage Support**

Mr. Hagger reviewed the responses to the letter that the SHC sent to the Sudbury DPW Director:

#1. SHC asked for additional renderings: DPW Director Tina Rivard, confirmed that two renderings were already sent to SHC.

#2. SHC asked for additional information regarding CCA, a water-based acceptable product for use on a timber bridge. The Sherman's Bridge Project Team will discuss options with the local Conservation Commissions.

#3. SHC questioned the direction of the boards installed on top of the glulam. Ms. Rivard responded that the boards would be installed diagonally.

#4. SHC recommended the steel posts behind the wooded guardrail be painted a National Park Brown. Ms. Rivard agreed.

#5. SHC recommended a four (4) board rail system be used on the north side. Ms. Rivard had no further comments.

#6. SHC recommended adding protection to fill the gap between the railing and the roadbed on the south side. Ms. Rivard responded an additional board on the railing would be added. Mr. Durall inquired if the plate shown would be next to the posts or reflect a continuous installation. Mr. Hagger stated he would send Mr. Durall's comment to Ms. Rivard.

Mr. Hagger posted a letter from Wayland Historical Commission which raised the following points:

- Commitment by both SHC and the Wayland Historical Commission to install a historic kiosk with exact locations to be determined later.
- Installation of a conduit under the bridge for future relocation of fiber optics.
- Replacement of 1992 streetlight on the Sudbury side of the bridge.

**HC/HDC Stewardship Working Group including meeting with the Sudbury Conservation Commission, potential Carding Mill visit and recent request from Sudbury Park and Recreation**

Mr. Hagger reported that the Sudbury Conservation Commission had agreed to meet with the HC/HDC on April 27<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Wallace reported the Chairperson of the Parks and Recreation Commission had forwarded a suggestion from resident Kay Bell, who recommended the Parks and Recreation Commission work with the SHC to put together a CPC proposal for presentation in the fall of 2026 to include kiosks highlighting the history of the recreation fields in Town.

Mr. Andreas stated the Sudbury Historical Society had already researched some of the properties.

**Rail Trails Signage DCR support**

Mr. Wallace provided a status update on the artifact signage along the trail. He reported 14 different artifact locations would have aluminum signs held by a u-shaped metal post.

Ms. Costa stated that when consultant Stacy Spies was compiling an inventory of artifacts for the railroad, she included them on the MACRIS System, under Central Mass Railroad.

Mr. Wallace left the meeting at approximately 7:50 PM.

**Historic Cemetery Restoration including Wheeler Stone using CPA funds**

Ms. Burns summarized her CPC presentation so that SHC could retain approximately \$15,000 left from the original 2004 CPC grant of \$172,350.

Ms. Burns listed lichen/moss removal and repair of broken gravestones to be viewed as ongoing maintenance items in need of funding.

Ms. Burns stated that Ellen Neiterman, President of Sudbury Historic Society, has pictures of 63 gravestones in need of repair in the Mt. Washington and Revolutionary War Cemeteries. She noted the plan was to ask CPC for additional funds, after spending the remaining funds from the 2004 CPC grant, to cover added expense associated with upkeep of the cemeteries.

Mr. Hagger inquired if the focus would be on restoration or cleaning. Ms. Burns replied the focus would be on repairing the damaged headstones.

Ms. Costa suggested that the Commission hire a historic cemetery consultant specialist to evaluate the cemeteries and establish a strategy on setting priorities for the maintenance of the historic cemeteries.

Commissioners discussed a two-part approach regarding maintenance of the historic cemeteries; a possible CPC application was discussed.

Mr. Hagger inquired about the status of the Wheeler Stone purchase order. Mr. Greene replied the information had been sent to James Goudie in the Select Board Office.

**Hosmer House Restoration Project**

Mr. Hagger reported the Hosmer House restoration proposals are being reviewed.

**Hearse House Opening on May 16, 2026 including Freedom Way Grant**

Mr. Greene opined about securing the Freedom Way Grant of \$350, to apply towards the cost of a kiosk for the Hearse House.

Mr. Greene asked for help procuring a typical conveyance as used in the 1800's in a small farming community like Sudbury.

Mr. Greene stated that he is trying to locate a similar hearse from the 1800's. Mr. Hagger reported the New London, New Hampshire Historical Society has a rural hearse located in a hearse house.

Mr. Greene provided a brief history of the undertaking industry in Sudbury.

**Hosmer House including Open Houses/ Open House Scheduling and Advertising, Housekeeping/ Cleaning in Collection Spaces**

Mr. Greene encouraged Commission Members to volunteer to cover the upcoming open house events at the Hosmer House.

Mr. Durall replied he would place the Hosmer House Open House advertisement tomorrow.

Mr. Greene requested a housekeeping/cleaning of the Hosmer House in May, prior to the 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration. Ms. Burns confirmed she would schedule the cleaning.

Mr. Hagger provided highlights of a recent historical building housekeeping seminar. Discussion took place about cleaning and dusting the Hosmer House and its contents.

**HC Documents at Sudbury Library/Website**

Mr. Hagger inquired about the Phase V hard copies. Ms. Perry replied that she would order five (5) copies for the Commissioners, one for the Hosmer House and one for the Goodnow Library.

Mr. Hagger inquired about the status of the 1985 Hart Historic Structures Report. Ms. Perry replied that she would have a Report sent to the Library.

Mr. Hagger requested two (2) hard copies of the Hart Historic Structures Report.

**Hosmer House Archivist Procurement Update**

Mr. Durall reported that Sudbury Historical Society Director and Archivist Francesco Buccella, signed the contract, and once the Town signs the contract, a kick-off meeting can be scheduled.

**Sudbury Open Space & Recreation Plan Update**

Mr. Hagger reported that the Planning Department hosted a virtual discussion on the Open Space & Recreation Plan. He confirmed that he reminded the Park & Recreation Commission to include the Militia Training Field on Old County Road.

**Hosmer House Collection Management Policy**

Mr. Hagger reported that he was able to obtain the Wayland Historical Society Grout-Heard Museum Collection Management Policy, which he distributed to Commissioners.

Mr. Andreas confirmed that he contacted someone at the Conservation Center for Historic Artifacts, who is a specialist of the Collection Management Policy.

### **Sudbury 250 Celebration**

There was discussion regarding the Hearse House opening as part of the Sudbury 250<sup>th</sup> Celebration.

### **Revolutionary War Cemetery Kiosk and signage update**

Ms. Costa provided a brief update on the intended installation in late April, provided there is no danger of frost.

### **Town-wide DRAFT Indigenous Cultural Landscape Study RFQ Update**

Mr. Andreas reported the RFQ had been issued and responses are due back by 3/27/26.

### **Historic CPC Grants**

Ms. Costa reported the 3/4/26 CPC meeting was dedicated to bringing in all recipients who have unspent funds from various CPC grants; three (3) historic grants were reviewed.

### **RR Section House & S. Sudbury Train Station**

Mr. Hagger reported that Town Counsel had sent additional comments to the MBTA concerning the lease of the RR Section House and the S. Sudbury Train Station.

### **SHC Consultant Oversight**

Mr. Hagger stated in a motion made at the January meeting of the Sudbury Historic Commission, the words “steering committee” were used and he has been advised by Planning Director Adam Burney that such language might trigger an open meeting issue and should be rescinded.

**Mr. Hagger motioned the Sudbury Historic Commission repeal the motion made at the SHC 1/27/26 meeting, and to dissolve the project steering committee created by the motion. Ms. Costa seconded the motion. It was on motion 7-0; Costa-aye, Hagger-aye, Durall-aye, Greenstein-aye, Andreas-aye, Greene-aye, Burns-aye.**

### **Meeting Minutes approval of February 10th, 2025 HC Meeting Minutes**

**Mr. Hagger motioned to approve the SHC minutes of 2/10/26, as presented. Mr. Greenstein seconded the motion. It was on motion 6-0-1; Costa-abstain, Hagger-aye, Durall-aye, Greenstein-aye, Andreas-aye, Greene-aye, Burns-aye.**

### **HC Finance Reports and next FY Budget Status**

Mr. Durall reported there were no changes made.

Ms. Costa asked if the historic survey for the S. Sudbury Train Station was included in the SHC Finance Report. Mr. Durall responded in the affirmative.

Mr. Hagger inquired if the budget provided for two cleanings of the Hosmer House before the end of the fiscal year. Mr. Durall confirmed there was enough money to pay for two cleanings.

**Date for next meeting**

Mr. Hagger reminded the Commissioners the next meeting of the SHC was scheduled for Tuesday, April 14, 2026.

**Adjourn**

**Mr. Hagger motioned to adjourn. Mr. Greenstein seconded the motion. It was on motion 7-0; Costa-aye, Hagger-aye, Durall-aye, Greenstein-aye, Andreas-aye, Greene-aye, Burns-aye.**

Mr. Hagger adjourned the SHC meeting at 9:45 PM.