

# **Sudbury 250 Committee**

Minutes for Thursday, April 24, 2025

Virtual meeting at 7:00 PM

(Meeting video can be viewed at [www.sudburytv.org](http://www.sudburytv.org))

Members present:

Virtual Meeting: Radha Gargeya, Committee Chair; Jan Hardenbergh, Committee Vice-Chair  
virtually: John Neuhauser, Jim Wiegel. Rachael Robinson joined at 7:36.

Roll Call: Gargeya, present; Hardenbergh, present; Neuhauser, present, Wiegel, present.

The meeting was called to order at 7:01PM.

Radha noted the Open Meeting Laws with respect to virtual meetings and that the meeting was being recorded by Sudbury TV.

Jan is taking minutes for this meeting

## **Opening Remarks by Chair**

We had our first major event, the 250 anniversary on April 19th. I want to congratulate all members of this committee for working so very hard to make this event so successful.

Thank you Elin and the Sudbury Historical Society (and Sudbury 250 member SHS Director Rachel Robinson) for opening your doors at 5 AM and your hospitality in providing coffee and a place to serve the bagels and pastries. I enjoyed the coffee and a bagel that kept me going for a while.

Thanks to Sudbury 250 Committee members – Town Historian Jan Hardenbergh who pealed the bells at First Parish; two of the minutemen: Commander John Neuhauser of the Sudbury Companies of Militia and Minute, COL (Retired US Army) Jim Wiegel. Thanks to all the minutemen and the file and drum corps who marched to Concord.

Thanks to Deirdre Sweeney and Al Petty for their music and Gretchen Loda for your singing at the Martha Mary Chapel. Thanks to Jim Wiegel and Wayside Inn for use of the Martha Mary Chapel.

Thanks to Sudbury Farms for their generous donation of bagels, pastries, Sudbury 250 themed cupcakes.

Thanks to Sudbury TV for coming two hours before setting up a mini studio to record the performances at the Chapel.

Thanks to Sudbury 250 Committee ex-officio member Leila Frank and the town staff for their successful efforts in promoting the events, designing event posters on the committee website that we could use, and their meticulous plans to enjoy 4/19 including the large electronic signs.

Thanks to Sudbury Police for their presence on 4/19 early morning and for escorting the Minutemen and the file and drum corps.

Finally, thanks to all the townsfolk who showed up in the early hours at the Town Center and later at the Chapel.

It takes a town, a town like Sudbury, working together as residents, town officials, and businesses, to pull this off.

No Public Comment

## **Member reports**

Jan has looked into support from Middlesex Savings Bank.

Radha has spoken to the Chamber of Commerce. They wrote a letter of support for their MA 250 grant, as they did for us. We're collaborating with them and we don't want to both go to the same organization asking for money at the same time.

John: Now that the 19<sup>th</sup> event is done, the Minutemen are starting to plan in earnest for the Colonial fair. Whether we get the grant or not, the fair will happen. So we're going ahead to plan that as if we're not going to get it. And then if we get it, that's sort of like a nice bonus on top. And there is also Red Horse Tavern.

On April 19th, For the Colonial concert at the Martha Mary Chapel I counted 86 or 87 individuals, but not all at once. It was a very good concert. Sudbury 250 should ask the public if they have pictures and put a photo album on our website. The electronic sign boards were advertising the 19th and that helped with the event itself and to get the word out about the 250th.

Sudbury Farms donated 2 cases of water, one full plate of bagels, with cream, cheese and pastries with cream cheese and butter for the morning and 100 large cupcakes with the Sudbury 250 logo for the afternoon.

Jim discussed the Bunker Hill event on June 14th during the day and an event at the Wayside Inn that the evening to commemorate the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States Army. That is when Washington took command in Massachusetts.

Radha asked if Sudbury 250 should be one of the co-sponsors for the US Army event. We promote it on our website.

Radha reports that we did not get any entries for the essay contest by the April 19th deadline. No action was taken.

Radha asked the committee if he should stay on as Chair after he joins the Select Board. He contacted the state ethics board and there is no conflict. The committee strongly supported Radha remains Chair of the committee.

A discussion about microphones and slides in the Martha Mary Chapel

Radha proposed writing letters so thank to Sudbury Farms, Jane Sciacca, and the April 19th musical performers. The committee endorsed the idea.

Radha reported that submitting the MA250 grant was much more difficult than expected. The essays had word limits that the essays prepared. It took many hours, but the submission was made on time. The Town Meeting article will go forward with a request of \$25K.

Radha reported that Duck Soup had offered to carry the Sudbury 250 merchandise. Rachael thought it was a fine idea as Duck Soup already carries Sudbury Historical Society merchandise. Radha will contact Duck Soup and CC Rachael.

### **Events, scheduling and estimated costs.**

Radha put up the event spreadsheet and we checked the status of events.

Deborah Sampson is confirmed. 4th of July is tentative. Ticonderoga Cannon confirmed; Colonial Faire confirmed.

Jim will check with Brian Plum to confirm Wayside Inn presentation.

Noble artillery. January 26th Steve Glovsky confirmed by Rachael

Indigenous Perspective still needs confirmation.

Peter Abair is confirmed. He would like to do it earlier if possible.

When beer was water. June 21st is cancelled.

4th of July 2026. is tentative meaning we need to get the artist to do the reading of the Declaration

Radha asked Rachael for the status of the colonial gravestones. They're working with the designer right now on the kiosk, and I don't. I don't think that there's any timeframe out there at the moment.

For the Colonial Faire, the total expenses is 18,764. If we get the MA250 grant, they will not cover infrastructure expenses: police, sanitary facilities, etc. We may need the extra money from Town Meeting.

For the 4th of July, we need a truck and students to play the music. Do the other trucks have sound systems?

A discussion about need to start planning Sudbury 250 and what we know in terms of venue and activities. Chief Nix like Curtis Middle School. Lots of parking. Less parking in the Town Center. We reviewed John Neuhauser's list of actives from the 11/24 minutes. Cannon and dancing were well supported. Sudbury 250 coins were discussed. Radha edited the list of ideas for future discussion.

### **Review and approve the open session minutes of 11/20/2024, 2/27/2025, and 4/10/2025**

After review and modification of the minutes Radha asked for motion to approve the minutes of 11/20/2024 as amended. Moved: Jan; Seconded Rachael; Vote: Hardenbergh, Aye; Robinson, Aye; Neuhauser, Aye; Wiegel, Aye; Gargeya, Aye.

After review and modification of the minutes Radha asked for motion to approve the minutes of 2/27/2025 as amended. Moved: Jan; Seconded Neuhauser; Vote: Hardenbergh, Aye; Robinson, Aye; Neuhauser, Aye; Wiegel, Aye; Gargeya, Aye.

Review of the minutes of 4/10/2025 began but was deferred and some details were missing.

### **Future meeting times:**

May 8, 2025, 7PM - hybrid

May 29 2025, 7PM - virtual

Radha asked for a motion to adjourn. Rachael moved. Jan seconded. Motion unanimously approved: Neuhauser - Aye, Robinson - Aye, Wiegel - Aye, Hardenbergh - Aye, and Gargeya - Aye.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46PM