

Sudbury 250 Committee

Minutes for Thursday, May 8, 2025 Hybrid meeting in the Silva Meeting Room at 7:00 PM

(Meeting video can be viewed at www.sudburytv.org)

Members present: Silva Meeting Room: Radha Gargeya, Committee Chair; Jan Hardenbergh, Committee Vice-Chair; Virtually: John Neuhauser, Tim Cobbett. Rachael Robinson joined @ 7:30, Jim Wiegel joined @ 8PM

Roll Call: Gargeya, present; Hardenbergh, present; Neuhauser, present, Tim Cobbett present

The meeting was called to order at 7:03PM.

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

Tim is taking minutes for this meeting

Opening Remarks / General Comments

- Sudbury Town meeting on Tuesday 5/6
 - Request for \$15,000 was approved
 - We are grateful for the town allocating this money to us
- Still waiting on the grant application
- Need to iron out details for the big events.

Public Comment: none

Member Reports:

Tim Cobbett: 7 essays for the 250 essay submitted. Thank you to Radha for separating them into two different batches (with and without names)

- Radha: echos comments about the high school essay contest and the various judges involved.

John Neuhauser: Looking into two speaker series possibilities

- Presentation about John Adams. Geared towards kids, but very interesting. Also includes readings by David McCullough
- Woman who presents on women of 1776 - 4 different women are the focus

- This could expand our subject matter focus beyond the topics and focal points we have so far.
- Maybe we touch base with schools to see if there is anything we can do to have her come in and speak with students when doing their Early Colonial units.

Jan Hardenbergh: Not much to report. Caught up on some minutes

Radha Gargeya: Thank you to the town for the gracious donation. When all is said and done we will give back any remaining funds.

- Spoke Louise, the lady who runs the Wayside Inn store, and they will be willing to display and sell Sudbury 250 merchandise.
- July 4th is coming up and the LSRHS band (of some formation) is tentatively planning to join. We need to iron out details as to what that commitment would look like and what they would need.

Sudbury Colonial Faire:

- Can we post a Sudbury 250 Banner at the entrance of the faire?
- Should we have a booth? Thoughts of the committee is that we should have a booth again.
 - John can talk to the organizers and get us a booth again.

Red Horse Tavern:

- We should also have a banner and/or table there so folks know that this is also sponsored by us.

Sudbury 250 Day: May 9th 2026 - Tentative time 11AM - 4PM

- Will contact Chief Nix and see what is going to be needed and what his suggestions are for this event given all of the participants.
- Jan - spoke with Leslie Lowe (Sudbury Garden Club) and suggestion was that we move this from town center to Curtis.
 - Conflicts with the plant sale in town center at that time.
 - Also encouraged by Chief Nix
 - Curtis would offer more space and parking.
 - But also lose the historic aspect of the town center location.
 - Committee is leaning towards moving this event to Curtis, but will move final decision to next meeting.
- Do we have someone who could lead and teach the "Period Dancing"
 - John - "yes" he knows someone who can do this. It will cost \$150-200 but it will lead to people dancing by the end of the day.
- Food Trucks and vendors:

- During the year, when at various events and we see food trucks and vendor demonstrators, we should get contact information and maybe menu/merchandise information. The earlier we contact them the better.
- Are there any around that we know of? Maynard has one coming up. Craft fairs, community fairs, church fairs. Also the SHS has food trucks at events. Leila has a list of food trucks for the Sudbury Holiday Village.
- Sudbury 250 Coins:
 - We have a place to get them, they look great, but they are also expensive.
 - Maybe look for other vendors to get price down.
 - Checked with vendor - coins are \$0.85 each
 - Should we sell or give them away?
 - Maybe both? Give them to kids as prizes and sell to adults for \$2 each (just as an example)
- Overall - we should figure out the order of events so that we can put out a brochure and let people know what is happening when, should they not be able to make it to the entire day.
- Sudbury Through Time Exhibit:
 - Should we merge this with the Living History Demonstrations?
 - *** This would be impossible to do if we move to Curtis - as the stops on the tour are town center based ***
 - Are the Living History Demonstrations the same as the character sketches?
 - Thought is no - they are different
 - Examples being recorded on the committee's list of events.
- Children's Games:
 - Period games like hoop and stick?
 - We can get wholesale ball and cup type games - could be sold or given away at the Historical Society gift shoppe
 - Are we thinking group of individual games.
 - Soak the Bloke & Coconut Shye
 - Would need a games coordinator to help with this and supervise the kids playing.
- Timing of the day: 10-4???
 - Potentially too long. Rachael suggests maybe 11-4 instead.
 - Holiday Village is usually 11-2
 - Colonial Faire is 10-4

May 18th 2025 Deborah Sampson:

- Martha Mary Chapel
- Actor needs access to the building at 2:30 - confirmed that will be available.
- Radha will post on social media and other places about the event
- We got a great turnout for the music

Fourth of July Parade:

- Need to locate flatbed truck for the LSRHS band

Working through other events and all seems to be on track

Indigenous Perspective 3/15/26:

- Rachael needs to circle back with the woman involved with that.

Addition of John Adams Presentation?

Addition of Women of 1776?

- Schedule both for weekdays?
- John will reach out to both and see if they are interested and can perform on weekdays.
- Radha will contact school folks to see what days of the week would work best.
- John - Women of 1776 is much like Deborah Sampson, so maybe a weekend would be best?
- Scheduling wise, we have little to nothing scheduled in April
 - What about April 5th or 12th?

Middlesex Savings: Jan signed up for an account and that could get us free advertising

Massachusetts 250 Website: we are listed!

Approval of past minutes:

- **April 10th:** one small edit about grant proposal.
- John motioned to approve, Jan seconded.
 - Passes unanimously on roll call: Neuhauser - Aye, Robinson - Aye, Cobbett - Aye, Wiegel - Aye, Hardenbergh - Aye, and Gargeya - Aye.
- **February 5th:** minor grammatical edits, fix misspelled names, etc. Nothing major. A few other minor details edited or fixed.
- Short discussion on the payment process for the April 19th musicians. They will reach out to the town and submit the appropriate documentation in order to get paid.
- Jim needs to confirm the details of the November 16th event at the Wayside Inn.
 - If that falls through then maybe the Women of 1776 could replace that event, date and time.
- Jan motioned to approve, Rachael seconded.
 - Passes unanimously: Neuhauser - Aye, Robinson - Aye, Cobbett - Aye, Wiegel - Aye, Hardenbergh - Aye, and Gargeya - Aye.

Future Meeting Dates: 5/29 @ 7:30, 6/18 @ 7PM, 7/9 @ 7PM

Final comments:

- Tim asked about clarifying some info in tonight's notes
- John: Request for medical and or law enforcement at Red Horse and 250 Day events - just in case.
 - Radha has spoken to Chief Nix and he is happy to talk to us about these types of issues.

Jan moved to adjourn the meeting. Tim seconded. Motion unanimously approved: Neuhauser - Aye, Robinson - Aye, Cobbett - Aye, Wiegel - Aye, Hardenbergh - Aye, and Gargeya - Aye.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34PM

Documents used during the meeting

Link to Supporting Materials

1. Meeting Agenda for this meeting, 5/8/25
2. Cost estimates for events as of 4/24/2025
3. Sudbury 250 Day planning document
4. Meeting minutes from 2/5/2025 – draft
5. Meeting minutes from 4/10/2025 – draft