

Sudbury 250 Committee
Wednesday September 24, 2025 at 7:00 PM
Virtual Meeting
Meeting Minutes

(This meeting can be viewed [here](#).

All meetings can be viewed at www.sudburytv.org)

Virtual Meeting

Present:

Radha Gargeya, Chair; Jan Hardenbergh, Vice Chair; Tim Cobbett; John
Neuhauser, Jim Wiegel

Radha said that this is a remote meeting duly authorized and we need to take a roll call.

Call to Order

Roll Call:

Gargeya-present; Hardenbergh-present; Cobbett-present; Neuhauser-present; Wiegel-present

Radha called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM as the quorum was met.

Radha will record the minutes.

Opening Remarks by Chair

Radha noted the successful completion of the Ticonderoga Canon event and will share the videos and pictures later.

Public Comment

None.

Member Reports

Jim reported on a successful cannon event at the Wayside Inn in Sudbury on 9/21/2025, which attracted many people, including those who were at the beer tent. Crain's Artillery and Brown's Artillery were there to fire the cannon which was done at dusk through the nightfall. The event also featured Sudbury Minutmen, and Fife and drum players. John Mitchell, the Grand Master of Masons, fired the first round. Their cannon, a static non-operational one, will be donated to be permanently displayed at the Scottish Rite Masonic Museum in Lexington.

John updated on the upcoming Colonial Faire, confirming it is set for Saturday 9/27/2025 at 10 AM, and discussed plans for the Red Horse Tavern event for 10/25/2025, where he requested Sudbury 250 and Sudbury Historical Society to set up booths.

Radha updated the committee on Sudbury 250's participation in the Colonial Faire, including the use of a new pop-up tent and plans to set up a donation box at the entrance.

Radha drafted a press release with John's help and it was reviewed and finalized by Leila Frank. He distributed the press release to various media outlets, including Boston Globe, Boston Herald, Radio Stations WBUR, WGBH, WBZ, major local TV stations, and online platforms Sudbury Weekly, Sudbury Patch, and One Sudbury Facebook group. Leila assisted with sandwich boards and electronic signs with the help of DPW. The events were posted on MA 250 event list. Andrea suggested adding Metrowest Dailly News, whofish.org, and Metrowest Visitors Bureau.

Tim and Jan did not have updates for this meeting.

Events, Scheduling, Estimated Costs, Finances, and Fund-Raising

The Committee discussed Brian Plum's presentation on 11/16/2025 and addressed concerns about visibility and sound quality at the Wayside Inn. They explored alternative locations including First Parish and the Grange Hall, with Jan confirming that First Parish has a strong projector and suitable space. Radha agreed to contact Sudbury TV about improving both picture and sound quality, while Jim will check with Steve about the main dining room availability.

The meeting also covered updates on other events, including a presentation at Ezekiel Howe on February 15th with Tony Howes, and a discussion about updating the dates on the town website and committee documents.

Sudbury 250 Day

The committee discussed plans for the Sudbury 250 Day on 5/16/2026.

Andrea updated the committee on two events: "Scenes from a Revolution" and "Sudbury Through Time." The Committee explored the possibility of involving the Performing Arts Connection for a higher-quality production and discussed expanding the traditional historical tour to include multiple sites around town.

Jan shared maps of the historic and current town center, and the group agreed to create a new map for the 250 Day, incorporating timeline elements and planning details for various activities and vendors.

Sudbury Day Cannon Event Logistics

The group discussed the organization of hosting a cannon firing event as part of Sudbury Day, with concerns raised about safety requirements, space constraints, and potential noise issues. John and Jim explained that cannons need approximately 100 to 150 yards of clearance, which would be difficult to accommodate in the town center, leading to suggestions to either locate it at the Heritage Park or explore alternative dates like 4/19/2026. Radha proposed tabling the cannon decision and consulting with Chief Nix, while John and Ellie planned to inspect the grounds for feasible locations. The consensus was to consider the cannon event, as it is popular, unless deemed infeasible at the town center due to space and safety considerations.

Period Event Planning Coordination

The committee discussed plans for period music, dancing, and food trucks for an upcoming event. Jim and John will help with arranging period-dancing and explore the participation of Wayside Inn Steppers. They agreed to combine period dancing and guided dance activities into one event. The Committee will compile a list of vendors and food trucks from events attended including Lenox Farmers' Market, Concord AG Day, Wayside Inn Apple Fest, and other fairs. The committee also discussed craft vendor recruitment, with Andrea suggesting posting on Facebook and John recommending the New England Crafting Guild.

Historical Games Event Planning

The group discussed organizing games for an upcoming event, with John suggesting they focus on simpler games rather than complex ones like Coconut Shye. They considered incorporating historical dress-up activities, but John and others agreed these might be too difficult to organize. The group decided to remove the dress parade and colonial dress concepts from the event plan, while Andrea suggested encouraging people to dress up in historical attire for the event. They also discussed having photo cutouts of historical figures for people to pose with.

Other Planning

Radha will draft and send a letter to John and Leila for finalization before distributing it to the committee. They agreed to explore other venues like the Grange Hall, Town Hall, and Noyes School for events. The group also reviewed art contest submissions and set homework to discuss them at the next meeting on October 8th.

Meeting Minutes

Jim motioned to accept the 8/21/2025 meeting minutes as edited by the committee. Jan seconded the motion.

It was on motion 5-0. Cobbett-aye, Gargeya-aye, Hardenbergh-aye, Neuhauser-aye, Wiegel-aye.

VOTED: To accept the 8/21/2025 meeting minutes as edited by the committee.

Jim motioned to accept the 9/3/2025 meeting minutes as edited by the committee. Tim seconded the motion.

It was on motion 5-0. Cobbett-aye, Gargeya-aye, Hardenbergh-aye, Neuhauser-aye, Wiegel-aye.

VOTED: To accept the 9/3/2025 meeting minutes as edited by the committee.

Future Meeting Times

Scheduled at this meeting:

Moved 10/8/25 meeting to 10/15/2025 as a hybrid meeting.

Wednesday 10/29/2024 at 7 PM as a virtual meeting.

John mentioned the upcoming July 4th Declaration of Independence reading and for us to find a reader.

Adjourn

Jim motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jan seconded the motion.

It was on motion 5-0. Cobbett-aye, Gargeya-aye, Hardenbergh-aye, Neuhauser-aye, Wiegel-aye.

VOTED: To adjourn the Sudbury 250 Committee meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:01 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Radha Gargeya

Documents used during the meeting:

[Link to Supporting Documents](#)

1. [9/24/2025 Agenda for this meeting](#)
2. Event Planning and Cost Estimates
3. Sudbury 250 Day Planning Document

4. Meeting minutes of 8/21/2025 – draft
5. Meeting minutes of 9/3/2025 – draft