

Sudbury 250 Committee

Minutes for Wednesday, June 3, 2026

Hybrid meeting at 7:00 PM

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

Members present: Radha Gargeya, Committee Chair; Jan Hardenbergh, Committee Vice-Chair, Jim Wiegel, John Neuhauser

Public: James Goudie-Murray, Town of Sudbury Management Analyst, Andrea Roessler, Sudbury Historical Society

The meeting was called to order at 7:07pm.

Roll Call: Gargeya, present; Hardenbergh, present; Neuhauser, present; Wiegel, present. A quorum has been achieved

Radha noted the Open Meeting Laws with respect to virtual/hybrid meetings and that the meeting was being recorded.

John is taking minutes for this meeting, John will use both notes taken during the meeting and AI summary to consolidate meeting minutes

Chair opening remarks

Radha praised volunteers, town staff, police, fire, and committee members.

Reported strong public feedback, smooth logistics, effective parking/shuttles, family-friendly environment, and excellent weather.

Expressed gratitude for the “heart and soul” put into the event.

Public comment

No public comment.

Member reports

- John Neuhauser – echoed Radha’s comments
- Jim Wiegel – Commented that Sudbury 250 Day was a great event and an enjoyable day. Expressed appreciation for police and fire support.
- Jan Hardenbergh – Nothing to report.

Sudbury July 4 Parade

- Radha contacted Blade of Grass, and they have agreed to lend Sudbury 250 a truck for the parade.
- Radha mentioned that he invited any members of the Sudbury Select Board and other town officials to join in the parade and either ride on the Sudbury 250 float or walk with the float.
- The Committee discussed have the “Town Crier” who was supposed to be at Sudbury 250 Day to read the Declaration of Independence on the steps of Sudbury Town Hall. Radha will confirm.

- The Committee discussed having someone read the Declaration of Independence during the parade from the Sudbury 250 float. It was agreed that, even with a speaker, it would be hard to hear the reading due to noise from other floats, bands etc.
- John Neuhauser noted he traditionally reads the full Declaration at the Wayside Inn around 3:00pm on July 4th during the flag-changing ceremony. The Committee discussed whether to direct residents to that long-standing event instead of creating a second reading at Town Hall.
- Jim mentioned that the Wayside Inn has a stagecoach that could be used by Sudbury 250 in the parade. The cost to rent the stage coach was \$1250 plus horses would have to be found to pull the coach. Discussion of who would pay for the coach if it was to be used. Would Sudbury Chamber of Commerce pay for the coach? The Committee discussed the purpose of having the coach and ultimately thought that it was too expensive. The committee inquired if the Sudbury Chamber of Commerce or local businesses would pay/sponsor the coach. No vote taken on using the coach.

Sudbury 250 Day Committee Debrief

Radha mentioned that Sudbury 250 Day went well

Sudbury 250 Attendance

The Committee discussed the number of public/attendees. Andrea noted that the Parsonage had about 450 people come through not all who entered the Parsonage were counted, and certainly that not everyone who attended Sudbury 250 stopped by the Parsonage. About 800 folks stopped by the Hosmer House. The overall Sudbury 250 Day attendance is possibly much larger than that.

Event Parking

The Committee agreed that there should have been more signage regarding parking. Where to park or how to get to the parking areas was not clear.

Sudbury 250 Advertising

It was noted that a postcard mailing went out to all Sudbury residents and Radha thought the mailing helped with event publicity. There was also signage about town.

Andrea noted that advertising should have gone out 2 months earlier and that having it go out last was a lost opportunity.

Vendors

Food - Overall, the food vendors thought the day was good but not great. Some vendors were busier than others.

Craft - The craft vendors that Radha spoke with mentioned that the day went well for them.

Miscellaneous

- John noted that there was a steady stream of visitors to and activity on the Town Green.
- Sudbury 250 pins were distributed as planned and the distribution went well
- It was mentioned that it would be good to get feedback from Police Chief Nix, Fire Chief Choate, and Leila Frank about the Sudbury 250 Day and also to see if periodic town-wide events could be held every few years. The next big event is in 2039, which is the 400th anniversary of Sudbury's incorporation.

- Honorariums – It was determined that both the Sudbury Companies of Minute & Militia and the Sudbury Ancient Fyfe & Drum Company would each receive a \$450 honorarium. (This was discussed after the discussion on other past events but was added here for continuity)

Past Events/Presentations

- May 17, Peter Abair, Each Hath a Hand
Event went well
- May 31, Prof. Daniell Mandell, Native American Communities During the American Revolution
The event went well. About 20 people attended, and quite a few were non-Sudbury residents

Presentations/Lectures are complete

Sudbury 250 Book of Record

Radha is pulling together a Sudbury 250 Book of Record, which will be a chronicle of the Sudbury 250 Committee and compilation of all events.

Committee members will work on various sections

Minutes Review

The Committee reviewed the minutes of the May 13 meeting.

Radha asked for a motion to approve the amended minutes.

Jan motioned to approve the minutes, and John seconded.

Gargeya – aye, Hardenbergh – aye, Neuhauser – aye, Wiegel – aye.

Motion passed unanimously

Future meetings

- Next meeting originally scheduled for June 17, but Radha is unavailable.
- Radha will send the Committee a poll about a June 23 or June 25 meeting date preference.

Sudbury 250 Merchandise

- The Committee had agreed to purchase beer steins to sell during Sudbury 250 Day but they would not have arrived in time, so Radha decided not to order them.
- Sudbury 250 t-shirts are almost all sold out.
- Sudbury 250 pins. The Committee discussed how to distribute the remaining pins. It was agreed to place baskets of pins at various town offices for the public to take and to distribute pins during the July 4 parade.

Sudbury 250 Logo Copyright

This item will be discussed at the next Committee meeting

Motion to adjourn

Jan made a motion to adjourn. John seconded.

Hardenbergh – aye, Gargeya – aye, Neuhauser – aye, Wiegel – aye.

Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:21 pm.