

Sudbury 250 Committee

Minutes for Wednesday, June 25, 2026

Virtual meeting

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

Members present: Radha Gargeya (Chair), Jan Hardenbergh, Jim Wiegel, Timothy Cobbett

Other attendees: Andrea Roessler

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

Minutes taken by: Jan Hardenbergh

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

Opening Remarks

Radha Gargeya opened the meeting and noted the 4th of July parade is 9 days away. The Committee was invited to ride on the float or walk alongside it; Jan confirmed he will walk with the float rather than ride.

Public Comment

Andrea Roessler asked to be recorded as being in attendance; no other public comment was offered.

Member Reports

- Timothy Cobbett: LS students did not complete their paintings. He has them primed and will have his daughter help finish them, with plans to drop them off in the center of town the following week.
- Jim Wiegel: Nothing to report; looking forward to marching in the parade.
- Jan Hardenbergh: Nothing to report.

Finances & Fundraising

The Committee is within its allotted budget. Jose of Sudbury Wines & Spirits (who also operates a store in Maynard near Market Basket) took Sudbury 250 merchandise on consignment to promote and sell. He has sold some and wants to purchase all remaining stock outright so he can continue selling it at both stores; he will send the Committee a check.

4th of July Parade — Plans & Vote

Float: Provided by Blade of Grass. Expected participants include Radha, Jan (walking alongside), Select Board members, the Town Manager, and town staff. All Committee members and their families were encouraged to join.

Town Crier: Mr. Templeman agreed to read the Declaration of Independence from the moving float. Regarding his costume: Andrea Roessler noted the Concord Players wardrobe does not do rentals during the summer. Radha will coordinate with him and Andrea offline; borrowing a period coat from the Minutemen was raised as an option.

Sound System: Radha contacted Sudbury Taylor Rental. At the town rate, two battery-powered speakers (125 watts, 117 dB, rated for 6–8 hours) are available for \$305.25. For scale, cannon fire at a prior event was estimated at 120 dB — these speakers are only about 3 dB below that.

Parade Giveaways (quoted by Maria, Select Board office; order needed by 10 PM that evening for delivery between June 29 and July 2):

- 1,500 red, white & blue beaded necklaces — \$164.97
- ~3,000 red, white & blue themed candy pieces — \$329.49

Items are to be handed to children along the parade route (not thrown). Leila is working out logistics for keeping pace with the float while distributing.

Motion: Jim Wiegel moved to approve purchasing the necklaces and candy, renting the speaker, and covering any other decorations or items needed for the float between now and the 4th of July. Jan Hardenbergh seconded.

Amendment: Andrea Roessler asked whether the town crier would be paid for his time. The motion was amended to include an honorarium for the town crier. Timothy Cobbett seconded the amended motion.

Vote: Passed unanimously (Hardenbergh — aye, Wiegel — aye, Cobbett — aye, Gargeya — aye).

Sudbury Book of Record

Radha has begun populating a "Sudbury Book of Record," a comprehensive archival document. Planned table of contents:

- Mission statement
- Committee members and liaisons
- Logo contest
- Annual reports
- 250 Resolution at Annual Town Meeting

- Sudbury 250 Day
- Posters and pictures
- List of events (with descriptions and pictures)
- List of presentations (with posters, pictures, and descriptions)
- The 3 essays
- The 250 brochures
- The 2 plays received
- Debrief notes
- List of meeting agendas and minutes
- Finances

Task assignments: Radha will handle the annual reports, the resolution, and gathering remarks, using Leila's posters and event photos. Jan will handle the Sudbury 250 brochures section.

Events to be documented (~8 total): April 19, 2025; July 4th, 2025; the Ticonderoga cannon firing; the Battle of the Red Horse Tavern; the Colonial Fair; the Sudbury Holiday Village booth (2024 and 2025); Sudbury 250 Day (2026); and the 4th of July parade (2026).

The presentations section will cover all talks from March 18, 2025 through Professor Mandell's most recent talk.

Logo Copyright

The original logo contest announcement states that all submissions become the property of the Committee, and that the winner receives recognition/bragging rights only. Radha reads this as establishing Committee/town ownership of the logo and has submitted a formal request for confirmation; a response is pending.

Committee Dissolution & Remaining Work

Per the mission statement, the Committee is expected to stand dissolved as of September 30 — approximately 3 months away, once the 4th of July parade and related wrap-up work are complete.

- Jan still owes two sets of outstanding minutes; at least one more meeting is needed.
- Complete and finalize the Sudbury Book of Record.
- Write a report to the Select Board after the 4th of July, and a final report before closing out.
- Jan suggested an informal closing gathering off town property (with champagne) for former members once official work is complete; Radha agreed this would be appropriate only after the Committee's work has concluded.

Pins — Distribution Plan

Current inventory: approximately 900 with James, approximately 100 at the Sudbury Historical Society, and approximately 50 more found by Jan — roughly 1,050 total.

- Distribute a batch (on the order of 500) during the parade.
- Release approximately 100 to the Town Clerk's office.
- Timothy will check whether LS and Lincoln-Sudbury staff can be offered pins.
- Small baskets at Fairbanks (senior center side) check-in desks, prioritizing Sudbury residents.
- Leftovers to be left at the Sudbury Historical Society.
- Idea raised: offer a 250 pin in lieu of an "I Voted" sticker at local elections.

Note: pins should be given to accompanying adults rather than directly to young children during the parade, since the pin backs can be pulled off.

Review Minutes of June 3, 2026

Draft minutes for the Sudbury 250 Day meeting, prepared by John Neuhauser, were shared for review. Radha made two edits: updated the link to the meeting recording, and corrected the spelling of Andrea Roessler's last name.

Two open issues were identified and the Committee agreed to table approval of those minutes to the next meeting rather than approve now and amend later:

- Attendance estimate: no figure was included in the draft. Jan recalled roughly 800 people visited the Hosmer House and believes only about half of all attendees made it there, suggesting a total closer to 1,500 — but the Committee agreed it never formally adopted an attendance figure at the time, so nothing was added based on today's recollection. Radha will re-watch the recording of that meeting and revise the minutes to reflect what was actually said then.
- Personnel names "Chief Nixon" and "Chief Choate" need to be confirmed for accuracy before the minutes are finalized.

Decision: Approval of the June 3, 2026 minutes is tabled to the next meeting, pending Radha's corrections.

Next Meeting

Returning to the regular Wednesday schedule. Candidate dates: July 8 or July 15.

- Timothy is unavailable July 8, and on July 15 is coaching at a lacrosse tournament in Lake Placid, so he could only join late.
- Jan and Jim are available on either date.

Radha will send a Doodle poll for both dates; the meeting will likely be hybrid. Planned agenda: 4th of July parade debrief and approval of the tabled Sudbury 250 Day minutes.

Adjournment

Motion: Jan Hardenbergh moved to adjourn; Timothy Cobbett seconded.

Vote: Hardenbergh, Aye; Wiegel, Aye, Cobbett Aye; Gargeya, Aye;

Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45 PM.