



## **Sudbury 250 Committee**

### **Annual Report 2024**

January 30, 2025

#### **Preamble**

When in the course of commemorating the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the commencement of the American Revolution, it became necessary for the Sudbury Select Board to establish the Sudbury 250 Committee on 5<sup>th</sup> of December in the year 2023, the Board submitted the following in the mission declaration: “It is anticipated that many of the observances will take place in the early spring through late winter of 2025, although the Committee may plan later events, such as the July 4, 2026 observances.”

Sudbury 250 Committee (“The Committee”, “We”) wishes to augment the commemorations by including Sudbury’s role in the events leading up to the American Revolution and beyond.

#### **Purpose**

The Committee agreed that its work will serve these purposes:

- To celebrate and commemorate the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the American Revolution through various planned events,
- To have the said events take place mostly between April 19, 2025 and July 4, 2026, while encompassing events in the American Revolutionary history,
- To include and engage all Sudbury citizens, starting with our children and students,
- To tell and record stories that are untold or under-told, and
- To inform and entertain.

#### **Planned Events**

We are planning a list of events including Faires, reenactments, music, parades, presentations for all residents of all ages, students, and performances and contributions from Sudbury residents.

Key events are:

- Sudbury Minutemen March on 4/19/2025 (250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Patriots' Day) early morning followed in the evening by a period music concert,
- a float in the 2025 Fourth of July parade,
- underwriting of Sudbury Colonial Faire and the re-enactment of Battle of the Red Horse Tavern,
- Sudbury 250 Day in Spring 2026, and concluding with
- the 2026 Fourth of July parade and a dramatic reading of the Declaration of Independence (250<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Declaration).

We also have multiple presentations and re-enactments during this time, including but not limited to:

- Presentation on Ezekiel Howe who fought on 4/19/1775 and later commanded the 4<sup>th</sup> Middlesex Militia Regiment of Massachusetts
- Presentation and re-enactment of Deborah Sampson, a hero of the American Revolution when she disguised herself as a man and joined the Patriot forces and served in the Continental Army
- Presentation and firing of cannon to commemorate the movement of Ticonderoga Cannon to Dorchester Heights under the command of Henry Knox
- Music Concert series

### **Outreach and Engagement**

Sudbury 250 had a well-attended booth at the Colonial Faire on 9/28/2024. We had a booth at the [Sudbury Holiday Village](#) on 12/7/2024 (from 16:44 mark in the recording). At both events, we were able to promote the activities through brochures, a banner, conversations, and sale of Sudbury 250 merchandise.

We are committed to including all of Sudbury. We will collaborate with our schools, community organizations, businesses, town historians, and various town committees and boards. The goal is to have the 250<sup>th</sup> events offer an enlivening, unifying, and reflective opportunity across Sudbury.

We are also working with the 250 Committees of neighboring towns to collaborate and coordinate our activities.

## **Budget and Finances**

We are grateful to Sudbury Select Board for allocating \$25,000 to The Committee. We will be pursuing outside grants, sponsorships, and donations which will reduce our costs.

## **Logo**

The Committee received six submissions for the Sudbury 250 Logo Design Contest. We are impressed by the commitment, thought, and design that has gone into each of the submissions. We are grateful for the honor of their time. We are happy to report that image at the top of the report by Sydney Merrill and Robin Merrill has been selected by the Committee as the Logo for Sudbury 250. We encourage all Sudbury residents to proudly display this logo wherever they can.

## **Respectfully,**

Sudbury 250 Committee

Timothy Cobbett – Faculty, History Department, Lincoln Sudbury Regional High School; Sudbury resident

Leila Frank – ex-officio member, Select Board Office Supervisor, and Information Officer

Radha Gargeya – Chair of The Committee, Sudbury resident

Joshua Gilman - Faculty, History Department, Lincoln Sudbury Regional High School

Jan Hardenbergh – Vice Chair of The Committee, Sudbury Town Historian; Sudbury resident

John Neuhauser – Commander, Sudbury Companies of Militia and Minute; Sudbury resident

Rachael Robinson – Director, Sudbury Historical Society

Jim Wiegel – Trustee Wayside Inn, VP Finance Mass Air Space Museum, Retd. Col. US Army; Sudbury resident