

Sudbury 250 Committee

Minutes for Wednesday, August 7, 2024,
Hybrid meeting in the Silva Room at 11:00 AM
(**Meeting video** can be viewed at www.sudburytv.org)

Members present in-person: Radha Gargeya, Committee Chair; Jan Hardenbergh, Committee Vice-Chair; Rachael Robinson, Leila Frank

Members present virtually: Timothy Cobbett, Jim Wiegel, John Neuhauser

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

Roll Call: Neuhauser, present; Cobett present; Wiegel, present; Hardenbergh, present; Gargeya, present; Frank, present; Robinson, present.

The meeting was called to order at 11:05AM.

Jan is taking minutes for this meeting

Opening remarks. Radha was in touch the schools, and we are trying to set up a date when Radha or somebody from Survey 250 committee can go to a school committee meeting, both to Lincoln Sudbury and SPS to ask for the involvement of the student community and the school community at large in the 250 celebrations. And the response has been very encouraging.

There was no public comment

Member reports

John received funding reports

Rachael researched suppliers for merchandise, some local and some online. The price will depend on how much we order. There is an option to give the design to an online retailer and people order what they want and it gets shipped to them.

Discussion of events

Leila invited the committee to have a table at the Sudbury Holiday Village - December 7, 2024. We need volunteers to staff the table.

Sudbury Colonial Faire - September 28, 2024. Jan has reserved a 10x10 tent from the Goodnow Library of Things, he can pick it up but not return it. We also need some merchandise. We need a big banner with Sudbury 250 logo and the Sudbury 250 name at the entrance, and again one for the booth. And we need some sort of a card or a trifold if we wanted to be more ambitious. There was agreement on putting together some sort of handout, but we need to have the schedule first.

Radha put the list of events on the screen and we started through them.

Morning of April 19th: There is a small minority who did want to come out at 5:45 and maybe breakfast and a tour. The breakfast and tour would need volunteers at the Loring Parsonage and the Hosmer House.

At 5:45 the Minute and Militia muster. 7AM breakfast. Tours at 8AM. Rachael will not be available that early and suggests speaking with Elin Neiterman.

A discussion of what else to do that day started with a review of the flash vote: flash vote for the morning kick off with the minutemen got 42%; shuttle to Concord got 16%; concert or musical celebration, 54%; fireworks, 66%; fun run or 5K road race, 24%; party or community event with food and games about 51%; reading reenactment, about 30%. Other ideas got fewer votes. So it seems like a strong preference for fireworks, concert, musical celebration and party.

Radha suggested we have a party when everyone is in town.

A discussion about a concert possibly with is the flag changing ceremony. That is when some of the Minute & Militia return to the Wayside Inn, change the flag and fire their muskets. It will be about 12:30, or one o'clock and it is only 5 min long.

Having a concert in the evening, with fife and drum, fiddle and flute, period music.

John said the Wayside Innkeeper reached out to him about doing something Patriot's Day. That might be a good time to have a concert. The Innkeeper, Steve Pickford, had proposed and ticketed dinner and a presentation on Patriot's Day. A ticketed event would not work as a Sudbury public event. Perhaps a concert at 5:30 PM followed by dinner from 6PM to 7:30 Dinner, followed by a Presentation. We would be limited to 65 people. The main ballroom could possibly hold 100 people.

There is a good proposal on doing a concert and dinner. Rachael thought that the choice of music would determine the demand. The type of music should be determined. The concert could be in the Martha Mary Chapel that is open to all and that could be followed by the Wayside Inn dinner.

Leila proposed a drone display after the concert. Questions about what it actually was and how much it would cost were discussed. If we really have a \$75K budget, we could consider this. The question of whether to have the drone display on the 19th versus on a day when school is in session. If the timeline is concert, dinner and then a drone display. Sunset is at 7:30. If there was an option for people to be at the Wayside Inn without paying, that could work. As there was no obvious resolution, Radha asked John & Jim to work with Steve Pickford to make a proposal.

July 4, 2025

We should have some presence. It would be possible to have a float in the parade.

(Jim Wiegel left the meeting at 12:10 PM)

Colonial Faire, 2025

Coupons vs. sponsoring to make a free for everyone. Attendance at the fair is currently \$3 per person. So, to cover admissions, it might be around \$3500. John will get a specific number. If we want to have colonial artisans, it would be approximately \$100 per craft, for example: tinsmith, candle

maker, and apple pressing. There would be fife & drum marching all day, craft vendors, food, beverages. As we are committing it was decided to take a vote.

Jan moves that we sponsor the Colonial Faire for 2025 for everyone. Radha seconds. John wanted to have a specific number, so the motion was tabled. During the discussion the alternative of having the first 100 people will be free.

Battle of Red Horse Tavern 2025

John has been running this event for 15 years and he will be handing it off over the next two years. It would be run as part of Sudbury 250. The only real expense is the porta-potties. As part of the 250 celebrations, we might recruit colonial historians and demonstrators and give them an honorarium. Having reenactments was relatively high on the interest level.

Future meeting times

August 28, 2024, 7:00PM

September 12, 2024, 11:00AM (Note: meeting moved from September 11)

September 25, 2024, 11:00AM

October 9th, 7:00PM

The book, Sudbury a Pictorial History was discussed. The name "Laura Scott" is very common and trying to find her will be very difficult. The book is mostly pictures and most of them are available through the Sudbury Historical Society. It would be very aggressive to finish the book by 2026. This is not a good candidate for CPC, but perhaps the Sudbury Foundation might fund it.

The Massachusetts Tourism board grant for April 19th, 2025. Radha asked for a motion to appoint Radha and Jan to work on a possible application for a Mass 250 grant to be submitted under the auspices of the Sudbury Historical Society. Rachael moved. Jan seconded. The roll call vote: Wiegel, aye; Neuhauser, aye; Gargeya, aye; Hardenbergh, aye; Robinson, aye.

Approve Minutes

The committee deferred taking up the minutes of July 24th, 2024 until the next meeting.

Merchandise. Does Rachael feel comfortable making up numbers for the merchandise? If Rachael is given a target cost, we can get pricing. Rachael is still getting some quotes. To get a full spread would be \$30K. There are a lot of options. Do we need keychains, water bottles? Mugs and T-Shirts to sell? Radha will provide more options at the next meeting. She should love to use Graphic Connections in Sudbury.

Radha asked for a motion to adjourn. So moved by Hardenbergh, seconded by Rachael. Voted: Hardenbergh, aye; Gargeya, aye; Robinson, aye.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:40.