

South Acton Train Station Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Acton Senior Center Audubon Hill

May 30, 2013

Mr Martin called the meeting to order at 7:35pm

Committee Members Present:

David Martin
Tom Campbell
Sean Hanley
Pat Clifford
Clare Siska

Committee Members Not Present:

John Sonner
Michaela Moran

Other Attendees:

Corey York
Bill Davies

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Review of meeting minutes:

Minutes of 5/9 were accepted with no changes.

Committee Changes:

Ms. Siska resigned as committee Clerk and Mr. Martin declared that the clerk duties would revolve from one member to another and would put together a schedule.

Comments from the public:

- Mr. Davies shared some images of other train stations from *Railpace Magazine*.

Construction Update:

- Mr. York detailed the schedule and scope of the sidewalk repaving project the MBTA was planning in the coming weeks (and provided a summary document)
- The South platform is moving along, with the pilings for the platform installed and clearing complete. There was a discussion of the safety of ditches dug for utilities and drainage.
- Ms. Siska asked if Joe Nolan was going to use the e-mail list of interested parties he created as his e-mails appear to only be going to town personnel. Mr. Martin said that Mr. Nolan may attend the next meeting.
- Further are there other e-mail lists that we could tap into (Minuteman Ridge, Indian Village, Selectmen's lists...)
- Littleton Station opens on June 3rd, 2013.

Farmers Market Community Table

- Mr. Campbell discussed scheduling a date for the Farmers Market Community Table
- Mr. Martin felt that a date later in the fall would be best as there would be more happening and more to report at that time

- The October 20th date was agreed upon and Mr. Campbell was able to schedule it with the Farmers Market.
- Mr. Campbell will extend the invitation to TAC to co-present at the community table

Publicity:

- Mr. Martin is continuing to write 2 paragraphs per week for the Beacon, as well as will be featured in a Q&A column in a June issue
- Ms. Siska proposed using Twitter to further communicate to commuters (and provided a summary document). She felt that Twitter was a good medium for immediate updates, and would provide more ability for others to provide comment and updates using a specific # or @.
- The discussion touched on official town policies, open meeting requirements, whether this committee is the appropriate source of this information or if Mr. Nolan was a better resource.
- Ms. Siska was going to reach out to the Town Clerk and the Selectmen to inquire to the town's policies.

Parking Issues:

- Mr. Martin discussed the future use of the Montourri land and felt that now was the time to start conversations with the MBTA around leasing the land for parking. He will reach out to Paul Hadley to initiate those conversations/
- Ms. Siska felt that there should also be a discussion with the ARRT folks as the timeline for that work has been moved up to 2015, and parking for the ARRT is in the 25% design phase. She will reach out to Roland Bartl and the AART committee.
- Mr. Campbell felt that we should have a follow up with Gordon Richards to discuss his future intent for his property as it would be a suitable parking extension. Mr. Hanley will follow up with Mr. Richards.
- There was a discussion of what needed to be gathered to further these discussions:
 - The existing Railroad St lease from the MBTA
 - Determine how much of the Montourri land parking lot would be Train, how much would be ARRT
 - What are the options for charging for parking? (tickets, meters, MBTA or Acton managed)
 - Should we charge for Railroad St with the same methods?

Future Meetings:

- 06/20/13
- 07/11/13

Adjourn:

Ms. Siska moved to adjourn, Ms. Clifford seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:52

Respectfully submitted by Tom Campbell