

South Acton Train Station Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Acton Senior Center
March 8, 2014

Subcommittee Members Present:

David Martin Bob Condon
Sean Hanley Tom Campbell

Other Attendees:

Corey York

Mr. Martin called the meeting to order at 7:36.

1. **Comments from the public** – None
2. **Review and accept prior minutes** – The minutes from February 27, 2014, and March 20, 2014 were approved
3. **MBTA Advisory Board report** – There will be one more MBTA advisory board meeting this year. The MBTA is focusing on minimizing dropped trips, and is performing an interruption of service analysis. There is concern within the MBTA that of their 1200 service positions within the organization, 50% of those individuals are scheduled to retire within 3 years, leaving a dearth of experienced talent in their ranks. The next board meeting will have a vote on whether to affirm or not the proposed MBTA budget (5% fare increase across the board). The board is looking to approve this proposal. They are also planning on introducing the new operations contractor Keolis.
4. **Historical Panels** – All images and text were sent to the T sign manager one week ago. Images from the historical society and Michaela not received yet. Corey will check to see if large format scanner is up and running at Town Hall. David was able to make a copy of the original 1794 map from the MA archives for a mere \$10.00
5. **WiFi Update** – No new information. Corey will follow up with the fellow from IT soon.
6. **Construction** – Expected resumption of concerted construction efforts in early July. Acton station project is possibly up to one year behind original schedule. However this may not affect the overall Fitchburg line scheduled completion date. The steel contractor is being replaced, requiring some of the original vetting and bidding process to be repeated. The odorous railroad ties were moved to a less populated area. Some new cars and engines have been put into operation on the line. In midsummer, 2 new bridges in Concord will be installed, possibly having minor impacts on the weekday schedule. Limited or no weekend service will resume again at some point in the near future. Stay tuned to the website for the latest updates.
7. **Parking** – As soon as we receive an updated schedule, David will coordinate with Doug Halley (Health Director – manages van service for the town) to ensure that there is the ability to compensate for any displaced parking spaces (shuttle service, etc.). There was much discussion regarding phase-out (sunsetting) of old parking meters, and the implementation of the new system. No real determination was achieved.

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8. **Coordination** – there was recent steel scrapping operations occurring on the rail trail. Abutters were not notified. This work took place in the early hours over a weekend. The design process for the Montourri property is on hold. No one is sure where it stands as far as % complete. There is concern over how we stay up do date on this progress. David will discuss this with Peter.
9. **Future Meetings** - The subcommittee agreed to meet next on June 12.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33

SPH