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South Acton Train Station Advisory Committee
December 10, 2009
Meeting Minutes (corrected) - DDM

TOWN CLERK, ACTON

Committee Members:

David Martin
Dore' Hunter
Michaela Moran
Peter Berry
Sean Hanley
Tom Campbell

Other Attendees:

Bruce Stamski
Neel Chaudry (Sen. Eldridge's chief of staff)
Terra Friedrichs
(members of the public)

Mr. Berry called the meeting to order at 7:32.

Mr. Berry reported on the meeting with the MBTA. The MBTA claims that they are too far along with the design to change, because of delays in construction and costs. The MBTA had estimated \$300M for the project. Now they have \$75M small starts program, plus 100% state matching, plus federal stimulus money.

Sen. Eldridge had a conversation with Jeff Mullan and others. The MBTA was not willing to change the design, but could add stairs down to the center platform and a sidewalk along the tracks to Martin Street. Mr. Chaudry said that Sen. Eldridge requested a cost breakdown for the dual platform within 10 days.

Ms. Friedrichs proposed working with the federal government, by contacting federal transportation officials and sources for project funds.

Mr. Martin reported that the important issues from the meeting with town residents were in order: security in the tunnels and on the center platform; south-side access; access for people breathing, heart, or other disabilities; rail trail; aesthetics.

Actions:

Mr. Berry will contact Hingham to ask about their working with the MBTA.
Mr. Hunter will contact Framingham to find out their experience with elevators.
Mr. Martin will contact the Littleton to see about any plans for their station.
Ms. Friedrichs will contact federal transportation officials to get a copy of the grant. She will also work with the ADC to determine appropriate contacts.
Ms. Moran agreed to put the issue on the Historic District Commission agenda, and to

write a letter to the Massachusetts Historical Commission. Ann Forbes will ask MHC about their response to the project.

The committee revised proposed recommendations to the selectman. Mr. Hunter moved and Mr. Martin seconded the revised recommendations. The committee voted unanimously to make the recommendations (attached) to the Board of Selectman.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00.

The next meeting will be 7:30 07 January 2010 at the COA.

Links:

http://www.mbta.com/about_the_mbta/t_projects/default.asp?id=15585 is the MBTA site about the project.