

**South Acton Train Station Advisory Committee**  
Meeting Minutes – Corrected  
Council on Aging Senior Center  
March 24, 2011

**Committee Members Present:**

John Sonner  
David Martin  
Sean Hanley  
Tom Campbell  
Pat Clifford

**Pending Committee Member Present:**

Clare Siska (acting clerk)

**Committee Members Not Present:**

Michaela Moran  
Nick Zavalas

**Other Attendees:**

Corey York  
Pam Harting-Barratt

**Mr. Martin called the meeting to order at 7:33.**

The committee accepted the meeting minutes of March 10, 2011 with changes submitted by Tom Campbell.

**Membership issues:**

- The committee agreed to retain the Assistant-Chairmanship and Clerk in a single position.
- The committee voted unanimously in favor of appointing Clare Siska to this position, pending her appointment by the BoS.
- Clare will submit her application to the VCC before the next meeting.
- The BoS is not expected to address any committee appointments until after Town Meeting.
- The committee discussed how to respond to questions from the public received via email. It was agreed that this is the responsibility of the Chair.
- Jim Yarin, TAC representative, has resigned effective immediately; no TAC member has stepped forward to fill that role. Conversely, no SATSAC member is currently willing to join the TAC. The committee discussed the necessity of the TAC representative on the SATSAC, noting that many other committees interested in SATSAC work are not required to have a representative on the committee. The committee stands by the draft charge dated March 10, 2011, which includes no TAC representation. The draft charge will go to the BoS after Town Meeting.
- A suggestion was made that meeting agendas be shared more directly by committees interested in transportation. No action was taken.
- A suggestion was made that it is time to reach out to the sidewalk committees regarding possible reprioritization of area sidewalks as a result of the new station design. Davide Martin will contact the the sidewalk committee co-chairs, Bettina Abe and Kate Chung.

**MAPC Grant:**

- Discussion of the MAPC transportation study grant was tabled to April 7 because it was not included in the agenda.

**Update on design meetings with the MBTA, presented by Mr. Martin and Mr. Hanley:**

- Meetings are going well but unknown what the perception is at the higher levels of the MBTA.
- CAD drawings now include 3D renderings and additional design changes, depicting a much more accurate representation of the station. Cory York will distribute to the committee via email.
- Were distributed by Cory York.
- The joint design team agrees that corrugated steel cladding is the most practical and cost effective material for use on all opaque surfaces. The MBTA will explore pricing.
- Other detail changes include flattening the south side tower roof; possibly making the north side tower slightly higher than the south tower.
- The building design is nearly done; attention will now move to the station entrance at the next (April 1) joint meeting. Acton architects are tasked with bringing an entrance proposal to that meeting.
- Station entry could involve land taking, easements, parking lot reconfiguration, lighting, safety and traffic considerations, and other related issues
- Mr. Campbell raised a question about the location of the MBTA's advertising signs. If they will be placed at the station, Acton want control over that. We need to start those discussions with the MBTA.
- Mr. Sonner asked that we initiate discussions about historic signs; how these are developed, who is involved, and what the time frame is.
- Schedule:
  - April 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> are the remaining meetings with the MBTA – cost and legal issues need to be resolved by 4/15/011 by the MBTA can create the cost estimate packet for Congress.
  - 90% designs are due by August; Construction out for bids out 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2011; station construction start Q2 2012; station complete Q4 2012.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45

The next SATSAC meetings will be:

7:30 Thursday 07 April at the COA

7:30 Thursday 21 April at the COA

Respectfully submitted,  
Clare Siska

Links:

<http://www.acton-ma.gov/index.aspx?nid=244> is the SATSAC page.

<http://www.littletonma.org/content/49/3594/5590/default.aspx> is Littleton's MBTA Commuter Rail Advisory Committee.

[http://www.mbta.com/about\\_the\\_mbta/t\\_projects/default.asp?id=15585](http://www.mbta.com/about_the_mbta/t_projects/default.asp?id=15585) is the MBTA site about the project.