



## **Acton Wireless Communications Facilities Bylaw Committee**

**Minutes for June 13, 2006**

**Acton Town Hall Room 121**

Committee Members Present: Peter Berry (Chairman), Bill Flood, Joe Higgins, Bob Johnson, Sidney Johnston, Alan Mertz and Bruce Reichlen. Also present were Town Planning Director Roland Bartl and observer Dave Wilson.

Peter Berry called the meeting to order at 7:35.

The minutes of the June 6 meeting by Alan Mertz were approved.

Bruce Reichlen clarified external array versus stealth tower, both monopoles. A stealth tower looks like a 13" diameter flag pole, but can only handle 1/3 the traffic of an external array. Old technology is the lattice tower.

Peter read the Town Meeting motion to bring us back to the scope of the work.

In a general discussion it was agreed that siting is the number one concern. Is number, appearance or height next important?

There was a general discussion of radiation. Radiation from the tower is proportional to the number of calls at any one time. Radiation for a phone user is dominated by that from the phone, since it is two way communication. It is less near a tower, largest when the signal from the tower is smallest.

The bylaw as it is written lets people put a tower on their own house. It only protects neighbors.

Printer problems prevented Roland from printing out the maps he wanted. He did bring (1) the zoning map, (2) the map with land now excluded whited out by zoning district – Village, Kelley's Corner, Historic, Common Land (PCRC), Conservation Land and private conservation restrictions, and (3) further reduced by 175 foot setback. Huge areas of the town are excluded.

We need technical expertise, especially on coverage from a tower.

Bob to talk to Tom Tidman about availability of conservation land (Sidney's suggestion)

- Some may not be recorded as state land even if bought with state money
- Where to see deeds? Probably registry of deeds and land court for registered lands

Next meeting: July 25. Then August 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> then every two weeks after September 5<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bob Johnson