

Katie Green

The **Acton Memorial Library Board of Trustees** met on July 23rd. The Board approved using \$30,000 from state aid to complete the first phase of upgrades to the library. This phase includes adding a café with self service coffee and a space for non-profit groups to host bake sales; adding book display shelves in the lobby; soundproofing the dome; adding window treatments; and building a door between the children's room and the meeting room. The Board also discussed some of the activities planned for the library's 125th anniversary. These include a presentation by an 1890's etiquette expert on September 20th at 3pm. Staff are also working on putting together a timeline of interesting events in the history of the library and selecting 125 books for each year the library has been in operation. Stay tuned for more information on all the events celebrating this milestone!

I attended a meeting of the **Acton Finance Committee** on July 28th. The Town Manager provided an overview of the proposal to purchase the Walker property at the special town meeting on 8/4 and he and I answered committee members' questions. The committee voted 6-2 to recommend the warrant article.

Peter J. Berry

SATSAC: Reviewed construction progress. Station is expected to open this fall. Landscaping issue; MBTA landscaping will be minimal; concern about screening station from historic district; SATSAC will write to BoS requesting that Town fund additional landscaping. Discussion about parking; main lot improvements; rail-trail parking lot; Richards' property possible purchase. Discussion about new train schedule to come out in fall.

Planning Board: Reviewed subdivision plan for 456 Mass. Ave., corner of Mass. Ave. and Prospect St. Neighbors at Davis Place concerned about adding landscape screening. Hearing continued to Aug. 18.

Kelley's Corner Steering Committee: Two meetings. Discussions about coordinating public hearings around new zoning changes. Andy will be presenting to the FinCom. Neighborhood meeting scheduled for 9/9 at 3 Nadine Road. Presence at back to school nights. PB public hearing scheduled for 10/6, comments until 10/20. Discussions about proposed height of 4 story buildings vs. max. of 3 stories. Only way to go to 4 stories is to go through Master Plan Special Permit process. Involves negotiations with developer and discretion in SP granting authority. Committee needs more clarification from Cecil Group; good visual of the KMart site with 4 story buildings; real world 4 story examples from similar communities; further explanation of pro-forma justification for 4 story buildings. Discussions about proposed design guidelines and whether they are enforceable

Janet K. Adachi

Finance Committee, Tuesday, 7/28 – Presentation by Town Manager and Selectmen chairman about 8/4 Special Town Meeting warrant article proposed purchase of Walker Realty parcel. Member comments about potential use included: make potential business use a top priority, for tax-revenue-generating and other reasons; be careful about considering potential uses, such as senior center, that might generate same high-volume traffic that was reason for Town's objection to childcare facility. FinComm voted 6-2 to recommend article. Presentation by Andy Brockway, Chairman, Kelley's Corner Improvement Initiative Steering Committee about proposed plan for zoning, infrastructure improvements; public forum about plan will be 9/21.

Land Stewardship Committee, Tuesday, 7/21 – New officers: Bettina Abe, Chairman (succeeding Jim Snyder-Grant who has been a very effective chairman for years), Bruce Rachman, Vice Chairman, Joe Will, Clerk. Discussion of proposed Trail Through Time trails on Nashoba Brook parcel; proposed linking of Bruce Freeman, Bay Circuit and North Woods trails; relocation of Luna's Bench (in memory of Town Hall mascot Luna (Abe)) to Grassy Pond; proposed community service projects for youths referred by Detective Keith Campbell.

Other community-related activities:

Acton Boxborough Diversity Coalition, Tuesday 7/21 – Summary by Rachel Sagan of Acton Boxborough United Way Needs Assessment Survey results. Membership changes in past 6 months have brought in new members with different ideas about what the group should be doing; group is considering group exercise to strengthen connections among group, among other things, and to prepare for discussion and possible modification of group's original mission.

Community Center exploration, 7/24 – Meeting with staff members at new Lexington Community Center, and Harvey Wheeler Community Center in West Concord.

Franny Osman

July 15 I visited a potential senior center site on mass Avenue with other members of the senior center study committee. It would be a newly built, leased building.

July 13 ??Attended the Elm St. Housing meeting .