

CITY OF SOUTH PORTLAND
Arts & Historic Preservation Committee
Planning & Development Department, 496 Ocean St.
9/4/19 Minutes

Present: Hannah Holmes, Doreen Gay, Justin Barker, Jon Godin, Jim Flahaven
Absent: Jessica Kessler, Mark Wiesendanger, Alessa Wylie, Kathy DiPhilippo

1. Review and approval of minutes from August 7, 2019 meeting:

Mary motioned to accept the minutes, Hannah seconded, no discussion. Hannah, Doreen and Mary moved to accept, Jon and Jim abstained as they were not at the meeting.

2. Public Art Committee goals:

- Mary would like us to work with Public Works regarding holiday lights in Mill Creek Park. Offer positive design ideas and the possibility of using solar power.
- It was also suggested that the sidewalk project for next spring consider the term crayon colored versus rainbow, due to the push back in some communities as the rainbow is a LGBTQ symbol.
- Doreen reported that her conversation was very positive with Tylor Norod at Avesta Housing who will be building housing on Westbrook Street and who just bought Brown's Corner, a location the Art Committee is interested in for public art. He did mention he has no budget for art and that the finished project is about 2 years away. Mary mentioned she would like to see some style of cow at Brown's Corner.

3. Historic Preservation goals:

- Archeological mapping...some sites are already in the Comprehensive Plan, but the areas aren't specific enough, it needs updating and isn't complete. Justin will start researching what is available.
- History trail...Mary mentioned the sub-committee of the Land Trust is working with the West End Trails, they also maintain the trails. The Land Trust may also be a resource for trail marker ideas.
- Explore identification plaques for our historic buildings. We would design them; the homeowner would pay for them. The design should include the city seal, date of the building, and name of the house if available. Justin will work on a mock up for our review.
- Justin mentioned that in Dublin, Ireland, the ends of some sidewalks depict the history of the area in bronze. Also, in Japan he noted that manhole covers, and other city street covers depict art.
- Design Standards...Justin mentioned it isn't possible right now, and that the city needs to fix the ones they have, he will keep us up to date on this progress.
- Jon asked what is our educational part? Mary said many communities have a booklet, to help educate the public about preservation, which may include history of architectural styles present in our city, resources, criteria we use to identify buildings, internet link to the South Portland Historical Society, Greater Portland Landmarks and more. The booklet should be available online as well. Mary will research what other communities have and report back.

4. Add to database: Hannah suggested another Saturday or evening retreat to complete the review of the neighborhoods. Justin will send out a Doodle.

5. Adjournment, Mary made the motion, Jim seconded, all were in favor.

Next meeting October 2, 2019

Respectfully submitted,

Doreen Gay