

City of South Portland
Arts & Historic Preservation Committee
November 2, 2017
Planning and Development Department

Members in attendance:

Kathy Di Filippo, So Po Historical Society
Doreen Gay, Vice Chairperson
Hannah Homes
Jessica Kessler
Ashley Krulik
Alessa Wylie, Greater Portland Landmarks

Staff in attendance:

Charles "Tex" Haeuser, Planning & Development Director

Members absent:

Adrian Dowling, Chairperson
Susan Hasson
Liz Salamone

Guests: Lynn Duryea, Steve Cecil (Harriman), Steve Sawyer (Sebago Technics)

Vice Chairperson Doreen Gay called the meeting to order at 7:40 a.m. with introductions.

Minutes: A motion to accept the October 5th meeting was made by Hannah, seconded by Kathy and were accepted.

Reminder: Doreen asked if everyone could print out the minutes and agenda at home and bring to the meeting.

Historic Preservation Subcommittee: the subcommittee met on Monday, October 30th and devised a plan for the collection of historic information. The first step is a database to collect historic submissions.

Hannah created the database and presented to the committee. Kathy pointed out that the dates listed in tax accessory's database aren't always accurate and suggested the suggestion of the addition of a column for architectural styles which would help to date a building. The submissions would be reviewed by someone qualified to identify styles and fill in that column. Kathy made a motion to accept the format of the database, with the addition of the architectural styles, it was seconded and accepted.

Question then about who is going to manage the database and the data entry. Ashley brought up the idea of putting the database on Google Drive with access for the committee to input information. Question then came up about public accessibility. After a discussion it was thought that the committee could use Google Drive to gather then information and then the database could be put on the city's website for the public.

Action Item: Ashley, Hannah and Tex to meet with the city's IT department about the logistics of getting the database on the city's website that and report back at next meeting.

Action Items: Ashley to have Google Drive ready by next meeting.

Suggested Agenda Items for December meeting:

1. Presentation by Kathy on how to do deed research.
2. Book report by Alessa on book – *Why Preservation Matters* by Max Page
3. Election of new officers – if needed
4. Committee endorsement of Mill Creek plan

Overview of Mill Creek Design Plan:

Presentation by Steve Cecil of Harriman Planning & Design of a phased plan for Mill Creek.

Purpose is to provide a distinctive identity to South Portland and to improve streetscapes and gateways. Three areas for improvement: the bridge, Erskine Drive, and Broadway intersection with the idea of reducing the “highway” image coming over the bridge.

Design components:

1. Storyline – “Burma Shave” sign banners with changing messages. Hannah suggested one idea for the banners could be to try to incorporate school art programs in the design.
2. Gateposts – light posts or light wands at approaches and corners.
3. Layered landscape on corner – 3 bands of plant materials.

Implementation:

1. City review
2. Concept endorsement
3. Maine DOT coordination
4. Funding
5. Phasing
6. Design

Committee had very positive comments about the project. Tex would like the committee’s endorsement of the project as it moves forward.

Meeting concluded at 9:10 a.m.

Next Meeting: December 7, 2017 at 7:30 a.m.