

City of South Portland
Arts & Historic Preservation Committee
June 5, 2019
Planning and Development Department

Members in attendance:

Hannah Holmes, Chairperson
Kathy DiPhilippo, South Portland Historical Society
Alessa Wylie, Greater Portland Landmarks
Jon Godin
Mark Wiesendanger

Absent:

Doreen Gay, Vice Chairperson
Jessica Kessler, Secretary
Mary DeRose

Staff in attendance:

Justin Barker, Community Planner

Chairperson Hannah Holmes called the meeting to order at 7:33 a.m.

Minutes: Kathy made a motion to accept the May minutes, seconded by Jon. The motion passed unanimously.

Membership Update: Two new members were appointed at the Council meeting last night, Mark Wiesendanger and Jim Flahaven. Mark introduced himself and his background working with MaineHousing and on restoration projects.

Adaptive reuse discussion: Justin summarized the proposed ordinance so Mark could get up to speed. The ordinance is scheduled for a public hearing with the Planning Board on June 12 at 7 PM. Justin suggested that committee members should be in attendance, but that the ordinance may not get heard that night due to a lengthy agenda. If it does not get heard on June 12, it would get bumped to July 10. Kathy and Mark suggested to skip the July meeting date and to reconvene in August. Jon suggested the results of the Planning Board hearing should be discussed at the next meeting.

Gateway Discussion: Kathy asked what the timing of the bridge lightpost project was and when would be a good time to submit a letter requesting removal of the Cape Elizabeth highway-style sign on the Casco Bay Bridge. Justin was not sure of specific timing but believes it is planned to move forward this summer or fall, as a bid package has already been submitted for contractors. Everyone felt a letter would be a good idea. Kathy and Hannah will work with Justin to write up a letter and get it submitted as soon as possible.

Items for Next Agenda: Suggested items to discuss for the August meeting included sidewalk art projects, more time to walk through the historic resource database, and a proposed location for the armory trail sign. Justin mentioned that Avesta is working on Phase II of their housing project on Westbrook Street and there may be an opportunity to partner on some public art. As the project discussions progress it may be a good idea to start collaborating on specific ideas.

Historic Resource List Update: The committee continued working through the list on SP Heights. Specific properties were chosen for the Sylvan Site added to the final list. The historical significance justification was qualified for each property. Alessa will check with Julie Larry regarding the kit houses. The committee agreed that a copy of any plans should be placed into the database. Kathy will follow up with deed research on 58 and 108 Stillman St, but they both qualify anyway. Kathy made a motion to accept the SP Heights section. Mark seconded, motion passed unanimously.

Justin will send the AHPC login information to Mark so he can review more.

Kathy made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Mark.

Meeting concluded at 8:55 a.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 7th, 2019 at 7:30 a.m.