

City of South Portland
Arts and Historic Preservation Committee
Meeting
November 2, 2016
Planning Department, Sawyer & Ocean Sts.
MINUTES

Present: Adrian Dowling, Tex Haeuser, Liz Salamone, Aimée Turner, Scott Whitaker, Alessa Wylie, Wes.

Scott called the meeting to order at 8:03am.

1. Review of minutes: Minutes accepted with no changes.
2. MILLCREEK DESIGN UPDATE. No news at this time.
3. PORTLAND PUBLIC ART COMMITTEE: No news at this time. Aimee will contact Julia Kirby.
4. VACANCIES ON THE AHPC: Councilor Beecher is moving someone forward. Other vacancies still to be filled.
5. NEW MEMBER PACKETS: Scott has developed a greeting one-sheet and a list of the contact info of members, to be shared with existing and new members.
6. LANDSCAPING AT HIGH SCHOOL: We aren't sure if this is the Courtyard project ("inside" the school) or landscaping / public art opportunity somewhere on the exterior grounds. Tina Feran at the HS is the initial contact. We want to involve the school Art Department. A wood & metal piece could be designed and made by students? Public funding available?
7. SOUTH PORTLAND ARMORY: the project has a few revisions that need to come back to the Planning Board.
 - a. Changes to the driving lanes impact the sidewalk on the north side of the street. Walkers could use the Greenbelt Walkway, but there are legit concerns about lighting and safety ("it's a tree tunnel").
 - b. This has been a big project with a lot of "surprises." Additional roof bracing: the brick walls had no bracing, were only stacked brick. The developer has installed appropriate hurricane and seismic reinforcement. He is also keeping the "shoulder" of the building, which impacts the upper profile of the design. (This is actually part of the back of the building). He needed to build roof crickets to move snow off the roof, and the crickets are quite visible. They have been weatherproofed with black rubber (bichothane), and he is proposing a "red brick" shingle.... Scott: the EPDM roof will stand up better over time than red shingle roofing material. The black roofing with stepping will be less visible than an attempt at the shingle.
 - c. The parapet is a very distinctive feature of the building. Another "surprise" in this project is that over the 2 years of planning, the parapet experienced such additional deterioration that that portion of the project is \$50,000 over budget.
 - d. Riverview Martial Arts sign: Wes proposes a sign with wrought iron features – he is sensitive to maintaining a historic look to all features of the building. In fact, a plainer, more "industrial" hanger is appropriate.
 - e. Front steps: Brand new concrete cast steps are ready. Replica of originals. The plaza in front of the steps also needs repair. Wes proposes a smaller plaza footprint and a low planter, with electrical access installed. AHPC members believe a sign explaining the history, and/or noting individuals or groups involved in the project would be a nice feature.
8. NEW BUSINESS:
 - a. Art Subcommittee. Jeff Woodbury is being invited. Liz will serve. Aimee suggests inviting a high school student. Several other names mentioned as potential members.
 - b. Library. Aimee asks that issues surrounding work on South Portland Public Library be added to December agenda, and that Library Director Kevin Davis be invited to join the meeting. Scott says that this would be a great project for the Historic Preservation Subcommittee, he would serve on that subcommittee, and Aimee would too.

Next meeting: December 7, 8am, Planning Office.

Meeting adjourned 9:20am.