

City of South Portland
Arts and Historic Preservation Committee
Meeting
June 1, 8:00-9:00am
Planning Department, Sawyer & Ocean Sts.
MINUTES

Present: Jane Batzell, Kathy DiPhilippo, Adrian Dowling, Hannah Holmes, Amanda Larson, Jessica Routhier, Liz Salamone, Aimée Turner
Absent: Scott Whitaker, Tex Haeuser

Jessica Routhier called meeting to order at 8:08am.

May minutes reviewed and accepted.

Steve Puleo, Community Planner with the Department of Planning & Development, gave a detailed presentation about the proposed new Brickhill Apartment complex. The proposed new complex is adjacent to the State Reform School historic district. Plan is up to 300 residential units. The buildings are planned to be similar to a property built in Westbrook by the same developer (square structures, vinyl siding).

Kathy will contact Maine Historic Preservation for more information and guidance about this development.

According to Steve, the planning ordinances require that the structures “fit within the standards”. Steve wants to involve the AHPC in this matter in order to thread these aspects together, that we are a “power base” and can “be the heavy” on behalf of the Planning Board, or in support of the Planning Board as far as design.

Kathy: We don’t want to become a design review board.

Amanda: We want to increase our role in advising, rather than “accept or deny” design.

Jessica: We need to get out ahead of plansets, and create a method to review plansets to streamline this committee’s activities. There is no historic preservation ordinance in South Portland.

We need to decide, as a committee, on the language to propose zoning language:

Proposed: **The AHPC recommends that this project incorporate materials and architectural style elements that are in harmony with the characteristics of the adjacent historic district.**

Writing and testifying to City Council is better than just writing. We have an opportunity to work ourselves into the zone amendment language.

Jane: It's appropriate for us to insert ourselves here. The City wants us to insert ourselves. We need to be on record with our recommendations.

Meeting adjourned 9am.

Next meeting, July 6, 7:30am - 9:00am, Opportunity Alliance, 50 Lydia Lane.