

City of South Portland
Arts and Historic Preservation Committee
Meeting
August 3, 8:00-9:00am
City Council Chambers, City Hall, Cottage Rd.
MINUTES

Present: ??

Jessica Routhier called meeting to order at 8:00am.

July minutes reviewed and accepted.

Brickhill

The developer has responded to AHPC's recommended changes brought to the Planning Board via Tex; including: façade bumpout and fenestration, columns, 6-over-6 style windows. These changes help the design of the new buildings coordinate with the existing buildings in the district without being exactly alike. Provides an attractive, "custom" look.

Millcreek Design Kickoff

Capital improvements and Design this year; schematic plan is in place. Construction next year (roughly May 2017). Erskine to Waterman & Broadway – screening of the rear of buildings (with plantings?); widen the sidewalk to a multi-use path; improve streetscaping. Erskine Park is a "gateway" opportunity for public art: the Millcreek public art should be welcoming and representative of South Portland. This is a great opportunity to reach out to local artists.

Vegetation/landscaping – Public Works is concerned about budget and talent to maintain complicated plantings.... Maybe native plants are an option? Waterfront Market could create an "Improvement Team" – more flowerboxes/containers (although watering is a concern) – would South Portland Garden Club be a resource?

We should invite a member of the Portland Public Art Committee to join us for a meeting. We should also attend one (or more) of their meetings. (We need to inventory our art. What IS public art? [Cemeteries?] TempoArt – let's experiment with temporary art...)

Committee Composition & Leadership

Jessica is stepping down effective October 2016 due to increased work commitments.

Our structure is not mandated. Scott will likely take over the chair position (as he is currently vice-chair). New vice-chair should come more from the "art" side.

Suggestions include: we should consider 2 full subcommittees (Preservation and Public Art); we need someone from Art – an art professional. However, the "proliferation of committees" could be a problem. More than focus on art, we should "elevate design." Subcommittees can conduct business in a less formal way than AHPC, and then can report back to the Committee (i.e. we can bring in the department head of the SPHS Art Department); however, they would each need leadership. We need to look very carefully at how we structure ourselves if we have subcommittees. If we review designs, should this go through a subcommittee? No, all member should consider issues whether they are on either committee.

Meeting adjourned 9am.

Next meeting, September 7, 8:00am.