

CITY OF LEWISTON
HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD
Thursday, December 5, 2019, @ 3:00 PM
Administrative Conference Room, 1st Floor, Lewiston City Building
FINAL MINUTES

- I. Roll Call:** This meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. and Douglas Hodgkin chaired the meeting.

Members Present: Douglas Hodgkin and David Chittim

Members Absent: Michael Brochu, Mark Lee, Steve Dayton and Gerard Raymond

Associate Members Present: Margaret Craven and Paul Robinson

Staff Present: Douglas Greene, Deputy Director Planning & Code, Planning & Code and James Buzzell, Land Use Planner

Guest Present: Charlie Hewitt, Neokraft Signs

Douglas Hodgkin appointed Margaret Craven and Paul Robinson as full voting members for this meeting.

II. New Business:

A sign/public art installation proposed at Mill # 5, located at 15 Mill Street.

Charles Hewitt explained that he designed the sign and is also funding it. The north side of Bates Mill #5 has a great sightline for the sign which is 30' x 9' and is about 2% of the space on that wall of the building. He said this is a contemporary art piece and he thought it is important for Lewiston to have its own identity. He said he was born in Lewiston and the hopeful sign makes a positive statement. The art piece will be temporary and be taken down in 36 months unless the community decides to own it.

Margaret said she loves the sign. Paul asked if there will be some kind of explanation for the sign and Charlie said when the piece is installed, there will be dialogue and discussion. The members asked why hopeful and Charlie said he needed it. David Chittim stated that evaluating the merits of art installation falls way out of this Board's prevue. The Board is not here to evaluate the sign but to make sure that it does not impact the historical building. He asked how the piece would be installed and Charlie said it would be bolted to the concrete but when removed will be repairable. He said the sign is made out of aluminum and only weighs 200 lbs. The LED lights will be wired from within the building. David asked if there were processes for evaluating art and Doug Greene said not at this time. Doug Greene said that the only permits they will need are electrical and sign permit.

Charlie said that the sign would be installed on December 20, 2019 and it would be lit on New Year's Eve at 7:00 pm. Douglas Hodgkin said that he would be taking a chance on people's reactions of the art piece. He recalled a sculpture that was installed in Veteran's Park that was very colorful and some people did not like it and it finally was removed. Charlie said that he is funding this piece and that it would not be taxpayers money. David said he would vote yes as long as the art piece is temporary. Douglas Hodgkin stated that this sign is not the error of the building but a more recent error. Doug Greene mentioned that this is not a business sign but an inspirational sign.

The following motion was made:

MOTION: by **David Chittim** to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for a temporary public art installation proposed at Mill #5 located at 15 Mill Street with the condition that this art installation will be taken down in 36 months. Second by **Margaret Craven**.

VOTED: 4-0 (Passed)

Doug Greene introduced James Buzzell, the new Land Use Planner to the Board.

Doug Greene also gave the Board an update on the text amendment.

III. Minutes: Adoption of the November 7, 2019 draft Historic Preservation Review Board minutes.

The following motion were made:

MOTION: by **David Chittim** to accept the November 7, 2019 minutes as presented. Second by **Paul Robinson**.

VOTED: 4-0 (Passed).

V. Adjournment:

MOTION: by **Margaret Craven** to adjourn the meeting at 3:35 p.m. Second by **David Chittim**.

VOTED: 4-0 (Passed).

The next regularly scheduled meeting is for January 2, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Cathy Lekberg, Administrative Assistant
Planning & Code Department