

HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD
Thursday, September 7, 2006, @ 3:00 PM
Administrative Conference Room, First Floor, Lewiston City Building

MINUTES

3:00 P.M. – Regular Business Meeting

I. Roll Call: This meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. and was chaired by William Clifford.
Members Present: William Clifford, Douglas Hodgkin and Jack Milo.
Members Absent: Phil Meldrum, Rick Morris, Fredda Wolf, and Gracia Eisemann
Non-Voting Members Present: Eric Hirshler. **Absent:** None
Staff Present: Gil Arsenault, Director of Planning and Code Enforcement and Cathy Lekberg, Administrative Assistant of Economic & Community Development

II. Old Business:

A. Update on Kennedy Park renovations by Phil Nadeau. Phil Nadeau was not present to give an update on this item.

B. A discussion on the proposed Main Street Historic District. William Clifford stated that the Board needs to make a decision on district boundaries, and which buildings would contribute to this district. Gil Arsenault asked Doug Hodgkin if he had determined whether this area would qualify as a district. Doug responded that he had checked the Maine Historic Commission website and he could not find the percentage or criteria. He also visited the Federal Code of Regulations website which was not very user friendly. Doug said that the district should not include the entire area from Prescott Street to Russell Street. The Board agreed that the district needed to be cut down in size. Gil stated that another option would be to have individual buildings that were not in the district listed for preservation locally. Bill Clifford mentioned the Peck-Chaffers House (506 Main Street) owned by Century 21 and how they were very interested in being on the National Register. Doug mentioned there are three levels of regulations: 1) National Register – no impact unless federal funds, 2) Demolition Delay – historic district locally, but the only control is demolition, and 3) Certificate of Appropriateness – changes in signage, windows, etc.

The Board mentioned six buildings that they agreed should be on the National Register, 1) Bates College Chapel, 285 College Street, 2) Clough Meeting House, 32 South Lisbon Road, 3) the Synagogue, 2 Shawmut Street, 4) Bauer Apartments, 425 Main Street, 5) the Neely House, 10 Frye Street, and 6) Blake-Ham House, 354-360 Main Street. Doug suggested the next step would be to contact Christi Mitchell of the State Historic Preservation Commission to discuss the Main Street area. Doug said he will try to schedule her to come and do a walk-through for the next meeting on October 5, 2006.

C. Update on the Dominican Block. Gil stated that there was no status change on this project. The imminent threat items were completed. He contacted David Clem by email and has had no response and the suit is still open.

D. Update on the Joint Committee for the Frye Street Historic District. Fredda Wolf was not present at this meeting to give an update on this item.

III. Minutes: Draft Meeting Minutes for August 17, 2006. There were not enough board members present for a quorum, therefore, these minutes will be placed on the next meeting agenda.

IV. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is for Thursday, October 5, 2006, at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Catherine Lekberg, Administrative Assistant – Economic & Community Development