

CITY OF LEWISTON
HISTORIC PRESERVATION REVIEW BOARD MEETING
FINAL MINUTES for Thursday January 8, 2026

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

Members Present: Mark Lee, Margaret Craven, James Lysen, Caitlin Lampman, and James "Pat" Webber

Associate Members Present: Roger Phillipon

Staff Present: Craig Thibeault, Land Use Planner and Shelly Godbout, Administrative Assistant

Applicants Present: Tom Platz, Platz Associates

II. **CORRESPONDENCE:**

Moved to **OTHER BUSINESS** on the agenda per Craig Thibeault.

III. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS:**

The following motions were made:

MOTION: by **Craven** to nominate **Mark Lee** as Chairperson
Second by **Phillipon**.

VOTED: 6-0 (Passed)

MOTION: by **Phillipon** to nominate **James Lysen** as Vice Chairperson.
Second by **Craven**.

VOTED: 6-0 (Passed)

MOTION: by **Lysen** to nominate **Shelly Godbout** as Secretary.
Second by **Craven**.

VOTED: 6-0 (Passed)

IV. **APPLICATIONS FOR REVIEW:**

- A. Application for a Certificate of Appropriateness for new signage at 70 Lincoln Street, Androscoggin Bank.

Lee gave a brief introduction of the application and reviewed the narrative provided by the applicant. He also gave a brief overview of the general guidelines and recommendations for the board when an application for a Certificate of Appropriateness is received.

Tom Platz, on behalf of Androscoggin Bank, presented the sign application to

the board. The proposed sign, “Androscoggin Bank” will be installed high up on an aluminum raceway hung from the lip of the existing pediment. The sign will be back lit with 7000k bright white LEDS with a dimmer, and the text will be white over a raceway that matches the color of the pediment.

Lee commented 7000° is really white and made the recommendation to lower to 5000°. Platz will speak with Mad Monkey regarding dimming the lumens and changing the temperature. Lee also commented, the “B” ascends above the raceway, and the “A” descends below the raceway. Lee suggested using a solid panel or a bar. Platz will speak with Mad Monkey about both options.

Lee inquired about offering insight regarding the degree of brightness of the sign. Thibeault stated he is pleased to see there is a dimmer and mentioned he included a condition with the recommended motion. Once installed, Thibeault will take a ride/walk to view the sign, take pictures and give insight to the board at the next meeting. Platz suggested board members be on site at time of installation as someone will be on a lift and able to adjust brightness as needed. Thibeault to coordinate date and time.

The following motion was made:

MOTION: by **Lysen** pursuant to Article XV, Section 5 of the Zoning and Land Use Code, to grant a Certificate of Appropriateness for new signage at 70 Lincoln Street, as described in the application submitted by Platz Associates, subject to the following condition:

Upon installation of the illuminated signage, staff shall provide an update to the Board on the brightness of the signage. Upon request from the Board, the applicant/owner shall be required to reduce the illumination to an acceptable level.

Second by **Craven**.

VOTED: 6-0 (Passed)

V. UPDATE FROM THE PUBLIC ARTS COMMITTEE:

Lysen gave a brief update on the previous meeting held on Monday, January 5, 2026. There were (4) art submittal applications based on the 12/3/2025 submittal date, \$107,274.36 in total. Five people scored each piece. The top two listed below were tied for 1st. A copy of the minutes will be available for the next meeting.

- 1st Wabankaki on the Androscoggin – Simard Payne Park
- 1st Lewiston Mural – Fisc Building on Lisbon & Ash
- 3rd Uneeda Bisquit – Lower Lisbon Street
- 4th College Street Bus Stops –

Lee inquired if the old Fisc Building is a contributing structure. Thibeault to look into.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS:

A. Discussion on Historic Preservation Grant Application

Thibeault informed the board of continuing discussions with the Maine Historic Preservation Commission regarding the Historic Preservation Grant application.

The next round of applications for grant funding begins early January 2026 and will be due the end of March 2026.

The MHPC's top priority is to do a reconnaissance level survey of the tree street area focusing on triple decker and other multi-family resources in that area starting with Walnut Street to Sabattus Street, running from North to South.

Craig notified the board that staff is still in the preliminary stages of gathering information and inquired if the board had interest in moving forward.

Lysen made the recommendation of hiring a grant consultant to manage the grant. Craven inquired about what the grant money can be used on. Thibeault stated staff would be interested in applying for funding to update the design manual. This project would be outsourced. Lampman inquired about surveying single family homes as well as multi-family units and asked what benefit this would have for the city. Lee explained that the purview of the board is preservation, the survey would provide a broader appreciation for the historical buildings in the city and updating the design manual will make the board's job easier. Lampman inquired about the reasoning behind the starting point and footprint chosen. Thibeault responded there was no indication of why this particular starting point or footprint chosen was provided however he could look into.

Lee inquired about next steps. Thibeault mentioned below:

- Read/study 200 pg manual for applying
- Research application requirements
- Possible application workshop in February
- Speak with staff regarding costs needed to apply
- When to approach council for money

Lampman inquired if the city has ever applied for this type of grant in the past.

Thibeault responded not during his time here and Lee added he believes they may have during Gil Arsenault's tenure.

B. Discussion on LD 435

The following motion was made:

MOTION: by **Lysen** for staff to write a letter in support of LD 435.
Second by **Craven**.

VOTED: **6-0 (Passed)**

Thibeault will draft a letter of support and send via email to the board for review as it is due next week.

VII. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The following motion was made:

MOTION: by **Lysen** to approve **November 6, 2025**, minutes as presented.
Second by **Craven**.

VOTED: **6-0 (Passed)**

VIII. ADJOURNMENT:

The following motion was made:

MOTION: by **Webber** that this meeting be adjourned at **4:02 p.m.**
Second by **Craven**.

VOTED: **6-0 (Passed)**

The next scheduled Historic Preservation Review Board meeting is on February 5, 2026.

Questions and comments on the application or meeting may be sent to Craig Thibeault, Land Use Planner, at CThibeault@lewistonmaine.gov or by calling 207-513-3000, ext. 3223.

Respectfully submitted,



Shelly Godbout, Secretary