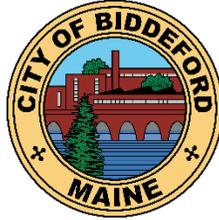

CITY OF BIDDEFORD, MAINE

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City of Biddeford to Establish Public Art Committee

Now seeking applications for committee members.

BIDDEFORD (February 13, 2020) — The City of Biddeford is embarking on a program to establish new, and preserve existing, public art.

With several major developments on Biddeford's horizon that will bring new residents, businesses and visitors to the downtown, City officials are establishing the Biddeford Public Art Committee, which will encourage public art to be considered alongside development opportunities.

"Public art enriches the quality of life in our community and can help build Biddeford's identity," said Brad Favreau, Economic Development Coordinator. "With so much interest in Biddeford right now, we don't want to miss the opportunity to get a public art policy in place."

The goal of the new committee will be to create a sense of place for the community through public art pieces. Members will first be tasked with establishing a public art policy and procedures. Once policies are in place, the committee will oversee the process of establishing public art projects. Tasks will include seeking funding, garnering input from the community, and guiding through to a finished product.

The ideal committee will include Biddeford residents with experience in art and design, such as art professionals, visual designers, architects, and engineers, as well as community members with a strong interest in art but with no professional background. One City Councilor and one City staff member will also serve on the committee.

Biddeford residents who are interested in serving on the Public Art Committee should visit www.biddefordmaine.org/PublicArtCommittee for more information. Applications for appointment must be submitted by March 13, 2020 and Mayor Alan Casavant will make the final selection of committee members by April 2, 2020.

"Art is so important to a city's culture and heritage, and as our city continues to evolve and prosper, I believe that we should accentuate our natural beauty with manmade pieces of beauty," Casavant said. "Art is a way to bring people together in appreciation of beauty and talent. I look forward to seeing what this new committee can accomplish."

For more information on Biddeford Public Art Committee, please contact Brad Favreau at brad.favreau@biddefordmaine.org.

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