Notes from Meeting #2
Group 21 Session 2
Facilitator Ande Diaz

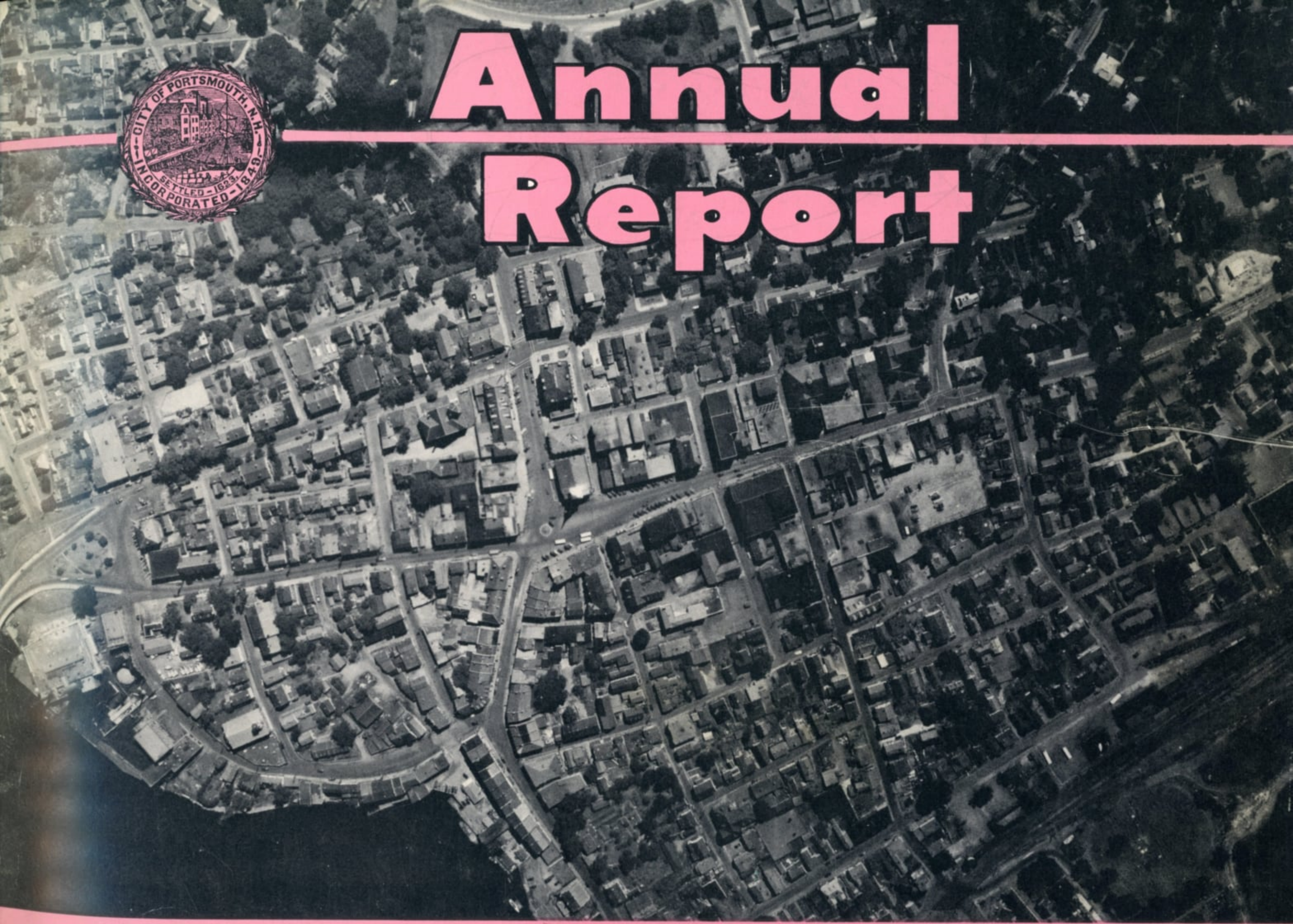
TOP 5 visions and related values (IN NO SPECIAL ORDER) to be incorporated into the McIntyre public space.

1. **Connected:** The McIntyre public space will embody connection: of time, space and people. Time connection comes from nearly 400 years of Portsmouth history: Revolutionary period, shipbuilding, early settlements, our neighborhoods and indigenous or marginalized peoples. Time connection bridges to the future through energy-efficient and sustainable design, while consistent with guidelines of the Historic District Commission. Space connection of the downtown segments will happen with openings to the adjacent spaces, including routes to the tugboat dock and the Piscataqua River, St. Johns' Church, Prescott Park and beyond to Pierce Island. This connection shall create a new hub of the city giving orientation to all of the foregoing landmarks. The connections to people will derive from open and welcoming pedestrian ways as well as paths that connect the present Commercial Alley to Daniel and Bow Streets [are these the names?]. Within the actual paths, benches, small fountains, and symbolic or written placards will allow us to gather and also allow the visitor to grasp some of our history.
2. **Diverse & Inclusive:** Our space will be useful and welcoming, and inclusive for all peoples in the broadest sense. We want to provide comfort and diversion to those from all walks of life and socioeconomic status. This is a place for those who live outside downtown Portsmouth as well as a special place for visitors to the city. We want the space to have a historical feel, but have the accessibility of a newer building with a special focus on ensuring access for those with disabilities in new and innovative ways. Generationally, we want those of all ages to be welcome as well.
3. **A Useful Public Space:** Our design should afford a civic function and encouragement of the arts and culture that are so important to Portsmouth. We envision a mix of public garden, gallery and performance space that fosters community/civic pride and feels useful to residents on an everyday basis. We see a space that benefits the city and includes and enhances the flow of transportation in the downtown area.
4. **Local & Integrated:** We envision a space that says "This is Portsmouth," and has unique symbols and sculpture that utilize and honor the special opportunity granted by public ownership of the McIntyre block. *We envision a stimulating and special location(historically – Daniel St. and Penhallow were lined with local small retailers).* We see a “destination,” something that gives you reason to visit. *Including commercial dining and retail that brings a smaller feel to the city and breaks the area into something more manageable.* We want to offer essential services as they make sense in 2021, so a Post Office with a smaller

footprint than previous is important to the local and essential feel that this value embodies.

5. **Open Space:** This space shall be visibly open so as call out the “connective sightlines” of Portsmouth. The design will utilize "green space" rather than obscuring with tall physical boundaries.

Annual Report



A SUMMARY OF MUNICIPAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1954