

**Legislative/Nominating
Committee Agenda Minutes**
November 1, 2022



MEMBERS
Councilor April Fournier, Chair
Mayor Kate Snyder
Councilor Pious Ali

REMOTE ACCESS INFORMATION:

This meeting will be conducted remotely via Zoom pursuant to the Remote Meeting Policy adopted by the Portland City Council. Allow your computer to install the free Zoom app to get the best meeting experience. If you are not able to attend live either in person or via Zoom, a recording will be available in the [Agenda Center](#) following the meeting.

For public comment via Zoom, you will need to use the "raise your hand" feature. To raise your hand via the telephone, please hit *9. You will be unmuted by the host when it is time for public comment.

To join the meeting, click <https://portlandmaine-gov.zoom.us/j/87377216395>

I. Call to Order

Chair Fournier called the meeting to order at 8:02 AM.

Councilor April Fournier (Chair), Mayor Kate Snyder, Danielle West (Interim City Manager), Kristen Dow (Director of Health and Human Services), Dena Libner (Chief of Staff), Senator Ben Chipman, Representative Rachel Talbot Ross, Representative Barb Wood, Representative Sam Zager, Representative Ed Crockett, Representative Michael Brennan, Representative Benjamin Collings, Kate Knox (Bernstein Shur), Alysia Melnick (Bernstien Shur), and Chris Feeney (Bernstein Shur) were present. Councilor Pious Ali joined the meeting at TIME. Greg Payne (Governor's Office) joined the meeting at TIME

II. Approval of Meeting minutes

a. Draft Minutes from the October 25, 2022 Legislative/Nominating Committee Meeting

Mayor Kate Snyder made a motion to Approve the minutes of the October 25, 2022 meeting, seconded by Councilor Pious Ali, vote (3-0)

III. Legislative Discussion

a. Update on Emergency Shelter/Public Health Challenges (City Staff)

Kristen Dow provided an update on the status of efforts to address the issues reviewed in the prior meeting and her three asks laid out the prior week. Items of note:

- New 10-unit housing may be coming online in the coming months
- Need for ongoing investment in coordinated emergency services for asylum seekers

- Need to know where people are located and what their needs are beyond just City of Portland resources.

Danielle West echoed concerns about the ending of the ERA program and the anticipated impacts of ending it.

Mufalo Chitam added that there are an additional 15 pregnant people being sheltered outside of City resources in the Portland area, and highlighted the need for temporary and emergency shelter solutions.

b. Discussion: Advocacy Priorities re: Emergency Shelter/Public Health Challenges

The Committee and Delegation discussed recent efforts to locate funding and resources from Federal and State sources to assist individuals needing assistance. The Committee and staff also discussed the importance of temporary housing during the ongoing emergency needs of people experiencing homelessness.

Dena Libner asked that the Committee consider approving the drafting of testimony for the state Housing Committee. All committee members agreed to have staff draft testimony for final approval via email.

IV. November Meeting Schedule

This item was not discussed.

V. Adjournment

Mayor Kate Snyder made a motion to Adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilor Pious Ali, vote (3-0)