



In attendance: Commission Members: Chair Patrizia Bailey, Vice Chair Steve Morgenstein, Kara Wooldrik, Jon Kachmar, Simon Rucker and Andrew Butcher. City Staff: Ethan Hipple and Alli Carroll

**City of Portland
Land Bank Commission Minutes
October 9, 2019, 5:00 PM
Portland, Maine City Hall
389 Congress Street, Council Chambers**

I. Citizen Comment Period

No citizens are present at this time to make public comment.

II. Agenda Items

i. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes: September 11, 2019

Simon motioned to accept the meeting minutes of September 11, 2019. Steve seconded. All in favor.

ii. New Business

The Commission discussed the potential of pursuing the GPCOG Brownfields Program to obtain reimbursements for future environment assessments when working towards acquiring priority parcels. Applications can be processed with Nelle Hanig of Economic Development.

Pat asked how the boundary redrawing of the paper streets was doing. Ethan confirmed that the Assessors office was still working on them.

Pat asked about the TAPC parcels from this year. Ethan said he was just appointed to that committee so he will be more engaged in this process in the future.

iii. Old Business

Pat asked Jon to take on the Verizon Pines parcel that was on Roger Berle's plate when he was a Commissioner. He will touch base with Kara and City Arborist Jeff Tarling for more information.

Pat spoke with former Chair, Tom Jewell about working with the Land Bank Commission as a consulting real estate attorney to help negotiate transactions with priority parcels. He has some clients who may be interested in working with the Commission.

Emerald Ash Borer was found in Payson Park. This will affect trees on Land Bank properties. There are 609 inventoried ash trees in Portland. This number does not include private property trees. Emerald Ash Borer has a 100% mortality rate if a tree is infected. Jeff Tarling is working with the State on the mitigation plan.

iv. Communications/Updates

a. Secretary Report - Simon

Simon shared that he continues to keep the Land Bank's Google Drive up to date. He is working on adding extra supporting documents for future references. Pat asked to make sure maps were up to date in the drive.

b. Treasurer Report - Andrew

The only activity in the last month was that the \$3,900 to the Opportunity Crew was processed. Ethan is checking on the Maine Conservation Corps funds because the bill was sent to Finance in the past month. Finally, the 2020 budget should be on an agenda soon as the new calendar year is quickly approaching.

c. Outreach Subcommittee Report

The Community Engagement Fund documents and applications are being edited by Alli to ensure cohesiveness.

d. Parks Update

Ethan invited the Commission to the Baxter Trail ribbon cutting on October 25th, 2019 at 1:00PM.

The Land Bank Commission is responsible for identifying and protecting open space resources within the City of Portland. The commission seeks to preserve a balance between development and conservation of open space important for wildlife, ecological, environmental, scenic or outdoor recreational values.

1 | Land Bank Commission
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