

Commission Members:

Chair (vacant), Vice Chair Jaime Parker, Amy Segal, Jon Kachmar, Marie Gray, Zack Anchors, Eleanor Sears, Beth Rabbitt, Stephen Bentsen, Kristen Fulmer, Cheri Musgrave, Katie Mears, and City Councilor Victoria Pelletier.

City of Portland **Parks Commission Agenda** **May 5, 2022** **5:00 PM**

I. Call to Order

Jamie Parker - introduced various commissioners and himself. Would like to hear from other groups.

II. General Citizen Comment Period (5 min)

III. Agenda Items

a. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes: April 3, 2022 **Action Item (5 min)**

Jamie Parker - cannot move to accept the minutes

Jon Kachmar - What was the vote count for the last time?

Admin experienced technical difficulties which resulted in an incorrect count on the motion made in the April meeting: the correct counts was 4 to 4 as opposed to 5 to 3 (yay/nay)

Movement passes - one abstain

b. New Business

i. Welcome new Parks Commissioners (5 min)

Jamie Parker - Reviewed the function of the commission: advisory commission, advisory role only. Advisory vote on the CIP budget. The Commission will review the 10 year plan and advise accordingly. Annual Parks Report is produced, this is a Commission responsibility. Green Space gathering.

Alex Marshall - Confirmed the role and tasks associated with Commission Membership - Fundraising - please review Chapter 18.

Jamie Parker - More focus on educational programming and fundraising. This work would happen in committees. Any questions? None raised.

ii. Reviewing the role and procedures of the Advisory Commission -Jamie Parker (10 min)

Jamie Parker - Looking for members to advocate. Would like to see equity represented in the parks. I Look forward to individuals flexing their skills.

Jon Kachmar - Regarding decision making, there is a difference between the Parks Commission and the Land Bank Commission. LB has decision making authority.

Jamie Parker - Park definition within the terms and discussion will continue. Can Alex or Jon update on

the Land Bank role in this commission?

Alex Marshall - Ongoing discussion, we are working on it.

iii. Moving forward, a strategic discussion (20 min)

Jamie Parker - Opened discussion for people's thoughts on where the commission should go in the future? What are the opportunities?

Cheri Musgrave - Will movements be advised head of time?

Jamie Parker - We will continue to let folks know in advance.

Alex Marshall - If a vote is needed we will advise. Last session was not a formal vote.

Jamie Parker - Let's not put folks in that position again.

Stephen Bentsen - The complicated language made the vote difficult, additional review would have been needed.

Beth Rabbit - Process issue: we need to (as a body) be able to preview statements being made on behalf of the commission. This happened last summer. Would like to see the commission discuss any statements made to the council, and be approved by the full commission.

Jamie Parker - Agreed, advanced notification is very important. It is preferable to miss an opportunity than to speak without the commission reviewing.

Nell Sears - Parks staff does review this and generates the agenda. We have a responsibility to listen to the parks department.

Alex Marshall - We will advise agenda items, we lean on the chair but would like to know more from other members if they would like to raise them.

Zack Anchors - Thinks this would be beneficial. Should we email you? Jamie confirmed. It is important for us to convey why we are discussing these items. Would like to provide context.

Alex Marshall - We would like to see more of: the commission bringing the voices of the residents, so we can address those concerns and get them on the agenda.

Zack Anchors - Supports Alex's recommendation and ideas. Commissioners and the public need to know what we are up to and why. We need to be clear with our role.

Jon Kachmar - Please come back.

Victoria Pelletier - Was at the meeting for 20 minutes due to conflict. Feedback: was disappointed that a vote was forced on a non-voting topic. Very intense and divisive, Sustainability and Transportation Council voted on option A. Disappointing that commissioners resigned over the issue. If you are frustrated with a vote, please reach out to her to continue discussion.

Jamie Parker - Did the packet include the vote from Sustainability and Transportation council?

Alex Marshall - It was not. We should have more information when these issues arise.

Zack Anchors - Sending a link to a meeting video of the previous meeting would have helped.

Marie Gray - Would have been useful to review everything prior to council meetings, so a recommendation is provided to them.

Jon Kachmer - Land Bank has a policy, commissioners should speak as an individual, as opposed to a group.

Jamie Parker - We need to issue advisories.

iv. Overview of committees and membership (15 min)

Jamie Parker - How do committees do their work? How can we meet between meetings. 1 on 1 is fine, but any more than that, staff is needed, the public needs to be notified.

Beth Rabbitt - Signage issue, how do we talk about the indigenous/education aspect of our parks.

Alex Marshall - We need volunteers for the finance committee.

Jamie Parker - Annual report consists of monthly reports, green space gathering, committee work

Alex Marshall - CIP funding and review. Planned improvements. Future interests. Funding directions?

- Outreach - Stephen, Beth, Zack, Jon
- Parks Initiative - Beth, Nell, Jamie, Cheri
- Finance - Marie, Kristen

Jamie Parker - Solution to public communication, include committee meetings in these meetings. Please see the section 'Committee Round Table'. If more time is needed, we will make time the right way.

Beth Rabbitt - Can committee members, can commissioners collaborate on a document.

Alex Marshall - No, unfortunately, it would need to be public facing.

Beth Rabbitt - Can we work in groups of two?

Alex Marshall - Yes

Zack Anchors - How do I reach out if I need to schedule a meeting?

Alex Marshall - You can reach out to Thom, but we would like to tack them onto the meeting.

Thom Nickerson - I can do 1 - 2 meetings a week, maybe.

Alex Marshall - Please make committee meetings during the work day.

v. Greenspace Gathering Update- Zack Anchors (15 min)

Zack Anchors - Scheduled for June 2nd, 5:30 to 7:30 at the East End Community center. Regular commission motion/agenda from 5 to 5:30. Build community, outreach, connections. Theme this year: Trees of Portland Parks. Passionate issue, good opportunity to bring that up. Jeff Tarling will be speaking: history, programs, the department. Alex to provide Parks update. Commission member speaks. Friends Groups will have tables. Talks, presentations. Ask - please spread the word!

Cheri - Where will it be held? East End School (Community Center)

vi. Reminder of upcoming CIP (Capital Improvement Project) - Alex Marshall (5 min)

Alex Marshall - The CIP process - already on us! Email will be provided to Friends Groups/Neighborhood Organizations asking for their ten year plan and what that they might want. July 19th is the cut off, please have all feedback provided by then. Our CIP plan will follow the internal priority criteria. Please review the provided timeline/process. Any questions?

Jamie Parker - Mention at the Green Space Gathering.

Alex Marshall - We only get a few responses, would love to see more feedback. Please make a priority to get your group's feedback to us. Make it a priority.

Jamie Parker - Who can submit this feedback, what is a friends group?

Alex Marshall - Friends Group - Organized group who advocates for their park. Please limit input from particular groups, not so much individuals or sub-groups, please collaborate.

Jamie Parker - How do we get this out to more people? Can we accept feedback?

Alex Marshall - We have an email group, and it goes to that list. Additional feedback from other groups is welcome, but the survey is focused on the groups. List is current as of 2021.

Jamie Parker - Wants to make sure that other groups and individuals can comment.

Alex Marshall - We should be asking the Outreach committee to make sure feedback from the different groups gets to where it needs to go.

Zach Anchors - The Outreach group has certainly done this in the past, we are happy to reach out to more groups if they come to us. Send out invites to Parks Commission meetings.

c. Old Business

i. April business meeting Food Truck records and vote (1 mins)

Jaime Parker - Already covered.

d. Communications and Updates

i. Parks Report (5 min)

Alex Marshall - Staffing is a huge challenge. Frustrating that the list is so big and hard to fill. Limited staff, but not limited requests.

ii. Land Bank Commission Report (5 min)

Jon Kachmar - Trolly park is about to close. Redlon parcels are being purchased. 531 Washington Ave conservation project. TAPIC list, we are still working on those. Have we ever made a park from these?

Jamie Parker - Any committee meetings? None.

iii. Committee Round Table (15-20 min)

e. Commissioner requests for Agenda Items

IV. Adjournment

Jamie Parker - Any agenda items? Motion to lose. Marie moved it. Seconded.

City of Portland Commissions are not required to take public comment under FOAA and our Ordinance is silent regarding the duties of the Commission. The Commission has the discretion to not allow or allow public comment during its meetings, including the authority to limit the duration of comments. Since the Commission makes recommendations to the City Council, public comment is available at that level.