



Commission Members:

Chair Michael Mertaugh, Amy Segal, Marie Gray, Beth Rabbitt, Michael Catania and Mayor Kate Snyder. **Staff:** Samara Ray, Jen Thompson- Corporate Council

City of Portland
Parks Commission Emergency Hearing Minutes
July 30, 2021
10:30 AM

*The Mission of the Portland Parks Commission is to advocate for the enhancement and stewardship of our parks and open spaces. Review and propose projects that impact parks and open spaces and recommend action.
Foster collaboration among park users and the City. Promotes public access and enjoyment.
Advocate for public and private funding for parks and open spaces. Enjoy Portland for Life.*

I. Public Hearing on, and adoption of, Remote Participation Policy

a. Draft Remote Participation Policy attached

A newly enacted law, 1 M.R.S. § 403-B, will allow remote participation in public board meetings under limited circumstances - for example if made necessary by an emergency or urgent issue or significant difficulties in travel - with the adoption of a remote participation policy. The proposed policy in the back up material is for municipal boards, committees, and councils to adopt if they plan to use remote meeting technology after the expiration of legislation City of Portland Commissions are not required to take public comment under FOIA 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. approved under Maine's Civil Emergency established by Executive Orders from Governor Janet Mills.

Action Item - Public Comment

No Public Comment

Jen Thompson provided the Commission an overview of the policy. The Commissioners discussed the policy.

Michael Catania moved to adopt the policy Beth Rabbitt seconded. The policy was adopted by the quorum unanimously.

II. Adjournment

Meeting was Adjourned.