



Commission Members:

Beth Rabbitt, John Clark, Marie Gray, Stephen Bensten, Helen Coyne, Alexis Lopez Del Vecchio, Ashley Burdick, William Elting, Victoria Pelletier (City Councilor), Donna Gartland, Jaime Parker (Chair), Kristen Fulmer, Robert Foster

City of Portland **Parks Commission Agenda** **November 2, 2023 at 5:00 PM**

*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.*

To submit written public comment on an agenda item, email ParksCommission@Portlandmaine.gov. Submissions must be received by 12:00 pm the day before the Parks Commission meeting to guarantee their inclusion in the agenda packet. All submissions must include the commenter's name and legal address. To help ensure your comment is submitted for the correct item, please include the name of the agenda item (see below).

REMOTE ACCESS INFORMATION

The Parks Commission will conduct this meeting remotely via Zoom pursuant to the Remote Meeting Policy adopted by the Portland Parks Commission. 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.

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- I. Call to Order
- II. General Citizen Comment Period
- III. Agenda Items
 - a. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes: 10/5/2023
 - b. New Business

- i. CIP Update
 - c. Old Business
 - i. Portland Trails Presentation
 - ii. Commission Responsibilities and Goals
 - iii. Commission Support for Protection of Parks and Trails
 - d. Communications and Updates
 - i. Parks Report
 - ii. Land Bank Commission Report
 - iii. Green Space Gathering
 - iv. Parks Commission processes and handbook
 - e. Commissioner requests for Agenda Items
- IV. Adjournment



Commission Members:

Jaime Parker (Chair), Beth Rabbitt, (Vice-Chair) John Clark, Marie Gray, Stephen Bensten (absent), Helen Coyne, Alexis Lopez Del Vecchio (absent), Ashley Burdick (absent), William Elting, Victoria Pelletier (City Councilor), Donna Gartland, Kristen Fulmer (absent).

City of Portland
Parks Commission Minutes
October 5, 2023 at 5:00 PM

*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.
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- I. Call to Order
- II. General Citizen Comment Period ~ No in person citizen comments.
 - a. Emailed Citizen Comment ~ No emailed citizen comments.
- III. Agenda Items
 - a. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes: 9/7/2023~ Minutes passed unanimously.

b. New Business

- i. Introduce Mark Reiland~ New City Arborist
~Various commissioners asked Mark questions about:
- ii. Portland's Tree Canopy and how it compares to others in the country.
- iii. Emerald Ash Borers in Portland and how we are dealing with it.
- iv. Experience or ideas with Urban Infrastructures multi-functionality.
- v. Mark is trying to focus on planting trees that don't attract pests.
- vi. Riverton Trolley Park Improvement Plan~ Alex Marshall reviewed upcoming plans.

c. Old Business

- i. It was agreed to keep this Green Space line item on the agenda permanently. Riverton Trolley Park may be the venue on May 2, 2024.
- ii. Annual Report~ Jaimie, Helen and William will start to compile report.
- iii. Topics of Focus Moving Forward~
- iv. Alex asked if the group could work on updating the current contact list.
- v. William asked if the process/processes of this committee could be discussed on a regular basis. Can the handbook be looked at and updated?

d. Communications and Updates

- i. Parks Report~ Alex reviewed the Parks and Land Bank Report
- ii. Land Bank Commission Report~ Alex reviewed the Parks and Land Bank Report
- iii. Alex reviewed the current encampment situation with the committee.

e. Commissioner requests for Agenda Items

- i. Portland Trails Presentation~ Jon Kashmar may be doing the presentation around the relationship between Portland Trails, Parks Conservancy and this committee.

IV. Adjournment~ Motion adjourn passed