

City of Portland | Parks, Recreation and Facilities Management

Ethan Hipple, *Director*

Alex Marshall, *Director of Parks*



Parks Commission September 5, 2024 Meeting Minutes

This meeting was recorded and is available to watch on the Agendas and Meetings Portal

Here: <https://portlandme.portal.civicclerk.com/event/6746/media>

Present Commission Members:Alexis Lopez Del Vecchio, Beth Rabbitt, Donna Gartland, Griffin Bourassa, Helen Coyne, Jaime Parker(chair), Marie Gray, Robert Foster, William Elting

Not Present: Ashley Burdick, Elizabeth Pagan, John Clark, Victoria Pelletier (city councilor)

Staff: Alex Marshall (Parks Director), Jessica Teesdale

Call to Order

General Citizen Comment Period- none

Emailed comments-Public comment emails 5/1/2024-9/4/2024 (attached to agenda)

The commission discusses Baxter Woods leash rules and agrees that the current rules do not require further discussion

J.Parker provides update on Martins point public access trail re: Martins point expansion. Portland Trails is working with developers to make sure the public trail remains accessible.

Agenda Items

Acceptance of Meeting Minutes: May 2, 2024

Motion to accept meeting minutes: D. Gartland; seconded by H. Coyne

passed: unanimously with G. Bourassa abstaining.

Commissioner Introductions

- Parks Commission Mission Statement

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.

- Committee Goals

B. Rabbitt provided a power point that provides an update on the Parks Commission, charter, mission, and goals. Coordinating with friends groups is a function of the Parks Commission. What would it look like to reach people more equitably through activating the friends groups?

A. Marshall provides an update on how the city has been working on GIS mapping that provides data on the accessibility of parks within a 10-minute walk to parks and open spaces. Jaime Parker suggests using new data as a benchmark to address the quality and safety of the routes to access open spaces and parks.

Is there a need for an updated community needs assessment?

- Objectives from 2023 annual report
- 2025 Priorities and Committees

Alternate meetings and strategy sessions every other month. October CIP Vote meeting. November will be a strategy meeting.

Annual Report and Finance Committee– B. Rabbitt and J. Parker

Outreach Committee (includes Greenspace Gathering)– D. Gartland, A.L.DelVecchio, H. Coyne, W. Elting

Special Projects Committee– R. Foster, M. Gray

- Commissioner terms, Chair and Vice Chair terms– A decision was made to hold a vote at the next meeting for chair and vice chair positions.

New Business

Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)

A.Marshall reviews the CIP with the commission providing updates on projects from the list, the process of how the projects are chosen, and answers questions from the commission about CIP projects.

Old Business

Communications and Updates

Parks Division Report

Land Bank Commission Report

Commissioner Requests for Agenda Items

Chair and Vice Chair nominations and vote

Forestry plan update

Adjournment