



In attendance: Commission Members: Chair Patrizia Bailey, Kara Wooldrik, Simon Rucker, Jon Kachmar, Jennifer Fox, and Andrew Butcher. City Staff: Doug Roncarati, Michael Goldman, and Alex Marshall.

City of Portland
Land Bank Commission Minutes
August 3, 2020, 11:30 AM

On Monday, August 3, 2020, at 11:30 am, the Portland Land Bank Commission conducted a virtual meeting using emergency legislation approved by LD 2167; 1 M.R.S. §403A, that authorizes cities and towns to conduct meetings online. This meeting was conducted remotely using Zoom.

I. Citizen Comment Period

George R. expressed concerns about issues logging into zoom meetings as a member of the public. He also stated that he does not agree that open space is needed in this area and believes a housing development would be a better use of the parcel.

The commission discussed that it is inappropriate and not in line with City Council rules for any meeting participant to reference a commissioner's personal information and reminded participants that these meetings are recorded.

Michael also confirmed that the meeting protocols have been in alignment with the applicable virtual meeting requirements and the entirety of each meeting is broadcast to the public.

II. Agenda Items

i. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes

Kara motioned to accept the meeting minutes of July. Simon seconded. Andrew abstained. Motion passed with five in favor.

ii. New Business

a. Rand Road -- *Vote to recommend Rand Rd acquisition to City Council*

The owners of the Rand Rd property have agreed to the generic terms of the purchase and sale contract. Pat asked for comments and concerns from the commissioners regarding the acquisition of the parcel before holding the vote to move forward.

Kara reiterated that there is no housing potential on this land. The parcel is mostly under a wetland/protected designation and the remainder is also undevelopable due to slope, power lines, etc. She also suggested we emphasize a need for a more robust way to access this green space from the Sagamore Village neighborhood.

Pat shared that Greg Mitchell surveyed other departments within the city and they were very supportive of adding this parcel to the land bank. One department mentioned building a parking area, but this would not align with the commission's goal of maintaining this parcel as open space. The seller is not in favor of building a parking area.

Pat recommended that the commission ascertain whether the seller is comfortable with the protections provided by the land bank as outlined in the ordinance or if they would require adding a restriction to the contracts.

Andrew requested clarification as to whether there are additional financial implications associated with the acquisition. Pat shared that a survey and appraisal are two potential costs that may be required, and she requested that, in the future, all costs that may be incurred by the commission be presented and approved beforehand.

Jon motioned for the Land Bank Commission to recommend that the City Council approve the proposed purchase and sale agreement for the Rand Rd property. Simon seconded. The motion passed unanimously.