



REMOTE RENTAL HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DATE: Monday, July 26, 2021
TIME: 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
CHAIRS: Meredith Cook, Tenant Representative
Regan Sweeney, Landlord Legal Representative

ZOOM MEETING INSTRUCTIONS:

The Rental Housing Advisory Committee will hold a remote meeting on Monday, July 26, 2021 at 5:30 pm. This meeting will take place remotely using Zoom.

Virtual meetings are allowed using emergency legislation approved by LD 2167; 1 M.R.S. §403A, that authorizes cities and towns to conduct meetings online.

Allow your computer to install the free Zoom app to get the best meeting experience. If you are not able to attend live, a recording will be uploaded to portlandmaine.gov/livestream the next day.

Join Zoom Meeting by click on the link below

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82478153027>

For public comment 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.

Webinar Meeting ID: 824 7815 3027

To join via Telephone dial:
US: +1 312 626 6799

To join by iPhone:
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AGENDA

1. Review and Approval of the Minutes of the May 24, 2021 meeting.
2. Introduction of new RHAC members.
3. Update on *SMLA v City of Portland* lawsuit (R. Sweeney).

4. Update on Rent Board (R. Sweeney).
5. Public Comment – Members of the public will be given an opportunity to address the Committee. Any person wishing to address the Committee shall give their name and address, and, if applicable, organization represented, and restrict comments to three (3) minutes.

NOTE: The Rental Housing Advisory Committee is not a grievance committee or complaint forum for landlord-tenant issues or dispute resolution. The duties of the Committee are: (1) to provide the Housing Committee with recommendations or proposals for improvements, modifications, or changes regarding landlord and tenant policy issues; and (2) to identify educational opportunities, seminars, and materials that would be useful to landlords and tenants.

6. Other Business.

Next Meeting Date: Monday, August 23, 2021.

**Rental Housing Advisory Committee
Minutes of Remote Meeting held on May 24, 2021**

Committee attendance: Amy Carole, Meredith Cook, Nora Graves, Wendy Harmon, and Regan Sweeney

Absent: Crow Norlander

Staff attendance: Mary Davis and Victoria Volent

Item 1: Review and Approval of the Minutes of the March 22, 2021 Meeting

On motion made by Meredith Cook, seconded by Nora Graves, the Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to accept the Minutes as published.

Item 2: Discussion regarding April 20 HEDC meeting and potential action items for RHAC

Regan Sweeney provided a high level overview of the meeting held with the Housing and Economic Development Committee. Meredith Cook and Nora Graves were also in attendance at the April 20 meeting. Members of the HEDC thanked the RHAC for their work and the ideas presented in their memo to the Committee. Consensus of the HEDC was to provide feedback on the RHAC memo and provide their own items for consideration for the next meeting of the HEDC. The HEDC asked the RHAC to come back to the HEDC with an update on which items they would like to take up for discussion.

Item 3: Update on changes in RHAC membership and nomination / appointment process

Mary Davis noted interviews for new and reappointed RHAC members were being conducted by the City's nominating committee. Recommendations would be forwarded to the City Council for consideration during their June 7 meeting. Openings on the RHAC are due to term expirations and resignations. Meredith Cook (tenant representative) and Wendy Harmon (landlord representative) have reapplied. Pine Tree Legal will provide someone to fill the expired term of the member experienced in legal rights/interests of tenants. There are also openings for a member who is a landlord, and a member who is a tenant.

Item 4: Report on April 28 and May 11 Rent Board meetings

Regan Sweeney has been attending the meeting of the Remote Rent Board. He provided an overview of the April 28 and May 11 meeting. The next meeting of the Rent Board is May 26.

Archived and future meetings can be found at: <https://portlandmaine.gov/129/Agendas-Minutes>

The City's calendar of meetings, and notification site, can be found at:
<http://www.portlandmaine.gov/list.aspx>

Item 5: Update on *SMLA v. City of Portland* lawsuit

Regan Sweeney noted the lawsuit is still in the works.

Item 6: Public Comment

The meeting was opened to public comment. No public comment was offered so the public comment period was closed.

Item 6: Other Business

On a motion made by Regan Sweeney, seconded by Meredith Cook, the Committee voted unanimously (5-0) to cancel the June meeting of the RHAC.

Motion to adjourn made by Meredith, seconded by Nora and passed 7-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Victoria Volent