



City of Portland Charter Commissioners Meeting and Public Hearing

via Zoom
Wednesday, July 28, 2021
6:00 PM

1. Call the Meeting to Order

a. Zoom Meeting Instructions – Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://zoom.us/j/94589066464?pwd=QUROWVF6a3FCaXJYZnBueEJlaml3dz09>

Passcode: 856904

Or One tap mobile :

US: +16465588656,,94589066464#,,, *856904# or

+13017158592,,94589066464#,,, *856904#

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 646 558 8656 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 669 900 9128 or
+1 253

215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799

Webinar ID: 945 8906 6464

Passcode: 856904

International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/u/aus0RuJ77>

Commission Chair Michael Kebede called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. All Commissioners were present. Attorney Brandon Mazer also attended, temporarily serving Attorney Jim Katsiaficas's role.

b. Public Comment Guidelines

Commission Chair Kebede provided an overview of the meeting and guidelines for public comment.

2. Remote Participation Policy and Public Hearing on the Policy

a. Remote Participation Policy Document

Motion made by Commissioner Eglinton and seconded by Commissioner Chann to approve the Remote Participation Policy.

Attorney Mazer provided the legislative context for the policy and the requirements that would apply if Commission meetings were to include remote participation. Commissioners asked questions and discussed the value of meeting remotely and allowing remote participation by Commissioners and the public when the Commission is also meeting in person. Public comment was taken for this item. Passage 12-0.

3. Introduction to Public Hearing

Commission Chair Kebede reiterated the logistics and guidelines for public comment.

4. Public Hearing

Approximately 37 individuals provided oral comments at the meeting. Topics included:

- Recommended research into prior Commissions and city models in Maine and in other parts of the country
- Rank choice voting process for when there are multiple at-large seats
- Governance and administration of the city (including roles and accountability of the mayor, city manager, and council; budget process; police oversight; City Council structure; oversight of labor issues; accountability of non-elected city staff as well as elected officials; and other topics)
- Public financing of local elections
- Recommendations about how the Commission should do its work and involve the public
- City collaboration with and oversight of Portland Public Schools

5. Adjournment

Motion was made by Commissioner Barowitz and seconded by Commissioner Sheikh-Yousef to adjourn. Passage 12-0 at 9:12 PM.