



City of Portland
Education Committee Meeting Minutes
September 1, 2021 at 6:00 PM

1. Call to Order

- Acting Chair Marcques Houston called the meeting to order. Members present: Houston. Eglinton. Commissioner Chann joined at a later time.

2. Elect Chair and Vice Chair

- Acting Chair Marcques Houston and Commissioner Eglinton agreed to postpone discussion until Commissioner Chann can join the meeting to discuss and vote on electing Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary.

3. Determine Workflow, Meeting Lengths, and Other Logistical Matters

- Discussion of communication from Commission Chair Kebede regarding assignment to (1) develop a workplan and workflow for the committee's work and (2) to limit the number of issues covered by the Election Committee
- Discussion of whether Committee should adopt Robert's Rules of Order. Acting Chair Houston and Commissioner Eglinton agree to not strictly apply Robert's Rules of Order and to follow Community Agreement since commission will mostly be workshopping issues and not voting.
- Discussion of having a public hearing on just Education issues. Acting Chair Houston and Eglinton agree to have next meeting be a public hearing and to check in with Commissioner Chann.
- Discussion of how long Committee meetings should be. Acting Chair and Commissioner Eglinton agree keeping meeting time lengths as close to two hours as possible and to be cognizant of people's time. Commissioner Eglinton suggests that we package summaries of work already done so as not to repeat and to keep things efficient and to be as prepared as possible ahead of meetings.
- Discussion of timeline. Acting Chair and Commissioner Eglinton agree to conduct Committee research in September, October, and November, and to wrap up a proposal to send to full Commission in December.
- Discussion of whether staff support is needed. Acting Chair Houston mentions that Committee may need Attorney Katsiaficas to help.



Commissioner Chann joins the meeting. Updated on discussion so far. Commissioner Chann agrees that next meeting should be Public Hearing.

4. Revisiting Electing Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary

- Discussion on Electing Chair. Executive Committee recommended that Commissioner Houston would be a good chair.
 - Election of Chair
 - *Commissioner Eglinton motions for Commissioner Houston to be chair. Seconded by Commissioner Chann. **Roll Call vote:** Commissioner Eglinton, yes. Commissioner Chann, yes. Commissioner Houston, yes. Motion passes unanimously.*
 - Election of Vice Chair
 - *Commissioner Chann motions for Commissioner Eglinton to be vice chair. Seconded by Commissioner Houston. **Roll Call Vote:** Commissioners Chann, Eglinton, and Houston vote yes. Motion passes unanimously.*
 - Election of Secretary
 - *Commissioner motions for Commissioner Chann to be secretary. Seconded by Commissioner Houston. **Roll Call Vote:** Commissioners Eglinton, Houston, and Chann vote yes. Motion passes unanimously.*
- Discussion on how roles will operate. Committee agrees that the roles should operate similarly as full Charter Commission.

5. Other Business

- Discussion on meetings with other committees. Committee agrees to attend other committee meetings if pertinent and to invite other committee members to Education Committee meetings if necessary.
- Discussion on inviting experts and presenters. Committee will reach out to PPS Superintendent Xavier Botana, School Board Chair, School Board Member Anna Trevorrow, Councilor Mavodones, Councilor Ali, PPS Grace Valenzuela, Maine School Management Association.
- Discussion of topics and areas to look into.
 - CHARTER ISSUES
 - School Board/City Council Relationship
 - Reviewing Art. III(5) to see if there are revisions that could address issues
 - Collaboration outside of school budget issues
 - Pre-K and After School
 - May need Attorney Katsificas to examine options for inclusion in Charter
 - Mental Health Care
 - School Departments
 - Resident voting for school board/school budgets
 - Review Preamble language on education
 - RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL/SCHOOL BOARD



- Developing a document that recommends actions Council and/or School Board can take on other issues the Committee/Commission care about

6. Motion to Adjourn

Commissioner Eglinton motions to adjourn. Seconded by Commissioner Chann.

Roll Call Vote: *Commissioners Eglinton, Chann, and Houston vote yes. Motion passes unanimously.*