



City of Portland
Education Committee Meeting Minutes
September 7, 2021 at 6:00 PM

Call to order, 7:08 p.m.

Present: Catherine Buxton, Marpheen Chann, Patricia Washburn

Elections committee will meet first and third Tuesdays.

Committee members introduce themselves.

Leadership: Chann elected chair, Buxton vice chair, Washburn secretary

Washburn advocates for reasonably extensive notes as an aid to public information.

Workflow and priorities:

Broad list of potential issues:

Buxton: Clean elections, citizen initiatives, maybe a tweak to the ranked-choice voting formula for multi-seat elections.

Washburn: Clean elections, Universal voting, timing

Chann: Campaign finance reform

Chann: Let's get something from the city reporting on the status of clean elections.

Ron Heinick(?) scholar focused on universal resident voting

Buxton: If we tackle term limits, we should probably check in with Governance.

Chann: If we tackle Universal Resident Voting we should work with Education.

Work plan and timing:

Should we have a public hearing? Public comment segment at each meeting?

Committee decided to have public comment period at each workshop.



Chann: Next meeting will focus on clean elections, and will include someone from the city to update us on the current state of that issue. Will also invite other experts. Bear in mind the deadline for agenda packets for the next meeting.

Washburn to reach out to LWV/MCCE, Chann to reach out to Ethics Commission and Buxton to reach out to city through Chair Kebede.

Sept. 21: Clean Elections

Oct. 5: Timing, ranked choice, campaign finance

Oct. 19: Universal Resident Voting (ILAP among others)

Nov. 2: Election Day (we're meeting anyway)

Nov. 16: Keeping November meetings available for check-in, discussion, and overflow.

December meetings are reserved for putting together a packet to present in January.

Buxton to talk with representatives of other cities about ranked choice voting.

Length of meetings: Washburn suggests 60-90 minutes. Buxton suggests striving to end by 9.

Chann: let's check in at 9.

Limit time for public commenters.

Presenters in first hour, public comment in 2nd hour, general standard of ending by 9.

Buxton asks if we can go later if need be. Yes, reluctantly.

Committee to work with commission leadership to make sure we eventually create a useful deliverable.

Buxton: Do we need to do more to involve the public?

Chann: We can stream Zoom to other platforms but possibly run the risk of creating legal ramifications.



Buxton: YouTube and others have free captioning available. Would need to be able to turn comments off.

Washburn moved to adjourn, Buxton second.