



Commission Members:

Chair Michael Mertaugh, Vice Chair Jaime Parker, Amy Segal, Jon Kachmar, Marie Gray, Zack Anchors, Eleanor Sears, Beth Rabbitt, Stephen Bentsen, Michael Catania and City Councilor Victoria Pelletier.

City of Portland
Parks Commission Agenda
February 15, 2022
5:00 PM

This meeting will be held remotely pursuant to the Remote Meeting Policy adopted by the Portland Parks Commission and as authorized under 1 M.R.S. 403-B because of the existence of an emergency or urgent issue that requires the committee to meet by remote methods. 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 available following the meeting.

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.

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://portlandmaine-gov.zoom.us/j/88673303935?pwd=NUFVUzdudcEVxUi9jVlhiVXYxci8rZz09>

Passcode: Olmsted200

Or One tap mobile :

US: +19292056099,,88673303935#,,,,*7865145638# or +13017158592,,88673303935#,,,,*7865145638#

Or Telephone:

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

US: +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799

Webinar ID: 886 7330 3935

Passcode: 7865145638

*The Mission of the Portland Parks Commission is to advocate for the enhancement and stewardship of our parks and open spaces. Review and propose projects that impact parks and open spaces and recommend action.
Foster collaboration among park users and the City. Promotes public access and enjoyment.
Advocate for public and private funding for parks and open spaces. Enjoy Portland for Life.*

- I. Welcome to the February Strategic Planning Meeting and Introduction (5:00-5:05)
- II. Frederick Law Olmsted Bicentennial - (5:05-5:40)
 - a. The Olmsted Legacy and Portland's parks - (Kirk Mohney, Maine Historic Preservation Commission)

City of Portland Commissions are not required to take public comment under FOAA and our Ordinance is silent regarding the duties of the Commission. The Commission has the discretion to not allow or allow public comment during its meetings, including the authority to limit the duration of comments. Since the Commission makes recommendations to the City Council, public comment is available at that level.

- b. Parks Conservancy and Friends Group proposals (Nan Cumming, Portland Parks Conservancy)
 - c. Parks Commission events – a tree-focused Green Spaces Gathering? Other events?
- III. Green Spaces Gathering, 2022 (5:40-6:00)
 - a. Proposed focus on tree planting -- rationale, constraints, approach
 - b. The importance of trees (Avery Yale Kamila, Portland Protectors)
 - c. Possible activities: speaker(s), promoting Portland’s cooperative tree planting program, park scavenger hunt, other proposals
 - d. Timing and venue (an outside space with potential shelter in case of rain?)
 - e. Next steps
- IV. Other Initiatives (6:00-6:25)
 - a. Informational signage on Native American legacy and Portland’s parks
 - b. View protection for Portland’s parks
 - c. Revising ordinances for Parks Commission and Land Bank Commission
 - d. Educational materials and activities on Portland’s parks
 - e. Outreach to develop more diverse participation
 - f. Committee roles and membership
- V. 2022 Calendar (6:25-6:30)
 - a. Review of proposed calendar
- VI. Adjournment

**Portland Parks Commission
2022 Draft Calendar**

February

- Parks Commission strategic planning meeting, February 15

March

- Vote on Sheridan Street development proposal
- Parks Initiatives Committee update on early findings in developing informational signage on Native American history and Portland's parks

April

- Outreach Committee presents Greenspace Gathering plan for discussion and approval
- Issue "save the date" invitations for June Green Space Gathering
- April 26 Olmsted commemorative event, TBD (Parks Conservancy lead. Parks Commission involvement?)

May

- Parks Department asks friends groups for CIP proposals
- Issue invitations for June Green Space Gathering

June

- Greenspace Gathering (date and venue TBD)
- Parks Commission provides CIP review calendar and ranking criteria to friends groups, asks friends groups for their CIP proposals, and invites friends groups to present their proposals at Parks Commission's July meeting

July

- Friends groups present their CIP proposals at Parks Commission monthly meeting
- Mid-July -- deadline for submission of friends group CIP proposals to Parks Department

August

- Annual Report Committee presents outline and draft elements of 2022 Annual Report (covering the period November 2020 through June 2022) for the Commission's review, comments, and suggestions

September

- Parks Commission reviews friends group proposals, votes on CIP priorities, and reports recommendations to Parks Department and City Council by September 30
- Annual Report Committee presents update on 2022 Annual Report

October

- Parks Commission approves 2022 Annual Report and presents to City Council

November

December