Commission Members: Chair Patrizia Bailey, Kara Wooldrik, Simon Rucker, Meri Lowry, William Mann, Roger Berle, Steve Morgenstein, Andrew Butcher and Councilor Justin Costa.
City Staff: Doug Roncarati, Michael Goldman, Ethan Hipple and Alli Carroll

City of Portland
Land Bank Commission Agenda
March 14, 2019
5:00 PM
Portland, Maine City Hall
389 Congress Street, Council Chambers

I. Citizen Comment Period

II. Agenda Items

i. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes: February 13, 2019

ii. New Business

a. Ad Hoc Ordinance Committee Update

iii. Old Business

a. Secretary Report

b. Treasurer Report

c. Outreach Committee Report – Strategic Planning

d. Parks Commission Report

e. Parks Update

The Land Bank Commission is responsible for identifying and protecting open space resources within the City of Portland. The commission seeks to preserve a balance between development and conservation of open space important for wildlife, ecological, environmental, scenic or outdoor recreational values.

CITY OF PORTLAND
Land Bank Commission

In Attendance: Commission Members: Chair Patrizia Bailey, Kara Wooldrik, Simon Rucker, Andrew Butcher and Councilor Justin Costa. City Staff: Doug Roncarati, Ethan Hipple and Alli Carroll. Member of the public: George Rheault

Land Bank Commission Minutes
February 13, 2019
5:00 PM
Portland, Maine City Hall
389 Congress Street, Council Chambers

I. Citizen Comment Period

There is no comment currently from the public.

II. Agenda Items

i. Acceptance of Meeting Minutes: January 09, 2019

Andrew motioned to accept the meeting minutes of January 9, 2019. Simon seconded. All in favor. Motion passed unanimously.

ii. New Business

a. Secretary Report

Simon reported that the annual report was submitted to the City Manager and City Council. He would like to go through the Google Drive more thoroughly and obtain more of the due diligence documents as reference. Pat offered to help retrieve those. Doug suggested being a part of that conversation to help make it as easy as possible. Simon and Alli will touch base gathering all agendas and minutes.

Members discussed future openings in the Commission. Councilor Ali is the chair of the nominating committee. Commission members will send some bullets of interest they'd be looking for in new Commissioners. Pat will touch base with City Clerk, Kathy Jones in May.

b. Treasurer Report

Andrew said that there aren't any updates regarding the approved budget at this time. He requested a monthly financial report from City staff. He will work with Ethan on this.

c. Outreach Committee Report - Strategic Planning and Field Trip Planning

It was discussed that the May meeting will be a field trip meeting. Staff will put list and timeline on the agenda so that members of the public can follow if they wish to. The Commission would like to visit the Redlon, Oat Nuts, and Holbrook parcels.

The ordinance suggests that the Land Bank Commission has an annual public hearing where they discuss the priority list and existing properties. It would be more formal than the regular monthly meetings. Kara asks if this could be combined with the Green Space Gathering held by the Parks Commission. Alli will connect the two Commission's outreach committees to work this out.

The Commission discussed the memo Andrew presented regarding the proposed engagement fund. Staff suggested that doing this quarterly was ambitious. There is too much due diligence. There was also concern with the $25,000 amount as it was more than half of the amount allocated to the Commission each year. Pat responded by saying this was the base for the fund, and then each year they would decide to add to it. Staff cautioned the Commission to not steer away from their mission of obtaining and protecting land. Councilor Costa agreed and mentioned that there is also a Parks Conservancy now. Commissioners will continue to make edits to the file. Andrew would like this to be finalized for the Green Space Gathering.

iii. Old Business

a. Holbrook Street Parcels - *Vote for tax acquired vacant land parcels on Holbrook Street, designated by the Assessor as 335E11 to 13, for recommendation to the City Council to place in the Land Bank.*

Pat asked for any comments regarding the Holbrook parcels. Andrew asked for a brief background of the parcels as it pre-dates his time with the Commission. Members and staff shared that information.

George Rheault appreciates Andrew's request in needing more information. The packet presented was not complete with every document of due diligence that occurred throughout the process. He wants to make sure it was not able to be used for housing and that the Commission makes sure every rock was turned over before it gets to Council. Councilor Costa replied by stating that it is up to the Commission to say whether there is value of this land to be in the Land Bank. It is then up to Council to question it further.

Commission added that George's concerns were fair. They will suggest to Greg Mitchell and Lori Paulette to include more information, such as colored maps and the environmental review documents, in the packet that goes to Council to help answer any questions in advance.

Justin moved for tax acquired vacant land parcels on Holbrook Street, designated by the Assessor as 335¬E¬11 to 13, for recommendation to the City Council to place in the Land Bank. Kara seconded. All in favor. Passed unanimously.

b. Paper Streets Update

Ethan updated the Commission that there is a Spring completion date.

iv. Communications/Updates

a. Parks Commission Report

There is no report currently.

b. Parks Update

Maine Conservation Corps will be coming again. In April or May, Ethan will come back to the Commission to share projects projected for this group.

Meeting adjourned at 6:24 PM.

CITY OF PORTLAND
Parks, Recreation & Facilities Department
Sally DeLuca, Director

CITY OF PORTLAND
Parks, Recreation & Facilities Department
Matt Coleman, Parks Director

TO: Parks Commission
FROM: Matt Coleman, Parks Director, Parks, Recreation and Facilities Department
SUBJECT: Parks Division Update
DATE: March 2019

Parks Division Staff Update

Our efforts to cast a wider net paid off as we received over 50 applications for the Athletic Facilities Supervisor position. We will now begin the process of interviewing candidates and hopefully have the position filled before the Spring season begins. With the arrival of Spring comes the time of year when we will be posting for seasonal job positions throughout the division.

East End Beach

Spring is right around the corner and so is the 2019 boating season at East End Beach. Park Rangers will be on hand to assist visitors with daily and season boat launching, as well as rack rental space for their dinghy and kayaks. There currently is a waiting list for rack rental space.

Winter Recreation

At this point in the season, it appears the ice skating season has come to a close. With the back and forth of warming and freezing temps and snow cover, the areas have poor conditions and the surfaces are not safe for skating. The Payson Sledding Hill is still in place with the terrain park. It remains a popular spot after a good snowfall.

FY20 CIP

Funding has been approved for the FY20 CIP and the Parks Division is fortunate to have new vehicles and equipment coming its way. We have several projects that have been approved. They include: Riverton playground replacement and softball drainage and erosion improvements, various tennis and basketball court improvements, park walkways and road paving, and Dougherty field improvements.

CITY OF PORTLAND
Parks, Recreation & Facilities Department
Sally DeLuca, Director

CITY OF PORTLAND
Parks, Recreation & Facilities Department
Matt Coleman, Parks Director

Sidewalk Plowing Operations

Efforts to update the sidewalk plow routes map have wrapped up. Our final revisions have been submitted and we hope to have a finalized map update on the city website very soon. Supervisors continue to use the Skyhawk system for monitoring units out in the field. Each storm gives us the chance to better our response and improve customer service for the residents of Portland.

Walk in the Parks Series

Join Portland Parks, Recreation and Facilities Department for "A Walk In The Park", a monthly series of walks and talks in Portland's Parks. Park Historians, Naturalists, and Park Staff will lead a series of lectures, walks and bike rides in Portland's Parks and Open Spaces to share the rich history and significance of these urban green spaces. There is no registration fee for these programs, but space is limited. Our next scheduled event will be in April.

Topic: Bus Tour of Monuments and Statues of Portland, Maine
Time and Date: Saturday, April 27, 10am--12:30pm
Presenters: Jeff Tarling, City Arborist, and Jill Mulkern, Lead Park Ranger
Location: Meet and board the bus at Parks and Recreation Headquarters, 212 Canco Rd
Description: Hop on the Parks and Rec bus and take a tour of Portland monuments, statues and memorials. Want to learn about that statue you drive by on the way to work everyday? Ever wondered who the people are that have been permanently memorialized in our parks and public spaces? Come join our Department historian Jeff Tarling, and Park Ranger Jill Mulkern for this informative tour through Portland's history and public spaces. Registration is limited to 13.