

**Charter Commission
Climate & Environmental Justice Subcommittee
August 9, 2022, 6:00 p.m.
Minutes**

Attendance

Commissioners Members					
Name	Present	Absent	Name	Present	Absent
Amira Streeter		X	Debbie Kitchin		
Brenda Ketah	X		Debra Porta		
Bryan William Lewis	X		Gloria Cruz	X	
Candace Avalos			Hanna Osman	X	
Dave Galat			Raahi Reddy	X	

Staff Present			
Diana Nunez	Julia Meier	Sofia Alvarez-Castro	Donnie Oliveira

Guest Present			
Indi Namkoong, 350 PDX	Jena Cho Kain, 350 PDX	David O'Longaigh, PEACE	Kaitlin Lovell, PEACE
Ben Stevenson, Sunrise Movement PDX	Luke Ramsey, Sunrise Movement PDX	Eloise Smith, Sunrise Movement PDX	Danielle Maillard, Sunrise Movement PDX

Welcome

Diana N. welcomed the group and provided Zoom logistics for the meeting. Interpreters explained how to access interpretation.

Co-chair Lewis reviewed the agenda for the meeting and a review of the discussion held at the August 2nd full Commission meeting. He provided an overview of the commission timeline.

Co-chair Osman reviewed the criteria the group discussed with the full commission on August 2nd to gain clarity on the subcommittee's work.

Approval of July 19 Climate and Environmental Justice Subcommittee minutes.

Group gave thumbs upon the July 19 minutes as presented.

Community Proposals

Portland Employees Act on Climate Emergency (PEACE)

David O'Longaigh and Kaitlin Lovell presented recommendations for additions to the charter. They represent 70 employees from a variety of city bureaus. They met for one year to create their goals and recommendations. Including:

- Create an office of Climate Emergency
- Add Climate as a special power in 2-105(2) and as a core value in 2-401 (and eliminate existing language in 1-108 prohibiting weatherization of buildings)
- Target Portland to be carbon emissions-free by 2040

- Renewable energy alignment
- Rights of nature and right to nature
- Regenerative, circular economy (zero waste commitment and carbon pricing strategy)
- Expand representation of youth (voting rights for 16+)

Group discussed what the group intended by rights of nature or right to nature and requested that PEACE provide information on other municipalities who have add this to their charter.

Group discussed how creation of an office of Climate Emergency may or may not tie into the proposed changes in government structure. The idea is that it would stand a little independent from other bureaus, modeled after the City of Boston.

350PDX

Indi Namkoong and Jena Cho Kain presented recommendations for charter amendments. Portland must phase our new fossil fuel infrastructure, and halve the carbon emissions by 2030, and have net zero emissions by 2050. Their recommendation includes:

- Environmental Rights & Responsibilities (enshrine both rights and public trust provisions in charter)
- Climate Assembly (have climate solutions created by those community members most impacted)
- Participatory Budgeting

Emerging proposals include:

- Prior consent and tribal consultation
- Fossil fuel phase-out mandate

Group discussed whether the groups discussed concerns with including these proposals in charter, which is slow to change, as so much of the climate emergency response changes at a rapid pace. Ms. Namkoong stated that is why they focused on social infrastructure of governance rather than things like emissions reductions.

Sunrise Movement

Ben Stevenson, Eloise Smith, Luke Ramsey, and Danielle Maillard presented their recommendations for charter amendments. Sunrise Movement is a youth led movement focused on climate justice. Their recommendation includes:

- Fossil fuels phase out – by a binding policy directive
- Climate test – evaluate projects and policies based on best available science
- Tribal consultation – engage tribal nations to gauge interest in charter amendments

Group discussed what impact Portland adding these items to it's charter can have – it can go a long way toward inspiring and encouraging other cities to follow suit in addition to eliminating direct, real threats to people living in the city.

Work to Date

Co-chair Osman provided information about the research done on what other US Cities have done regarding inclusion of climate-related language in their charter. Most do not include language in the

charter but instead leave it to code or policy in order to remain adaptive as climate science and technology changes.

Co-chair Osman provided an overview of a recent meeting with Bureau of Planning and Sustainability director, Donnie Oliveira, and Climate Program Manager, Andria Jacob, on current city initiatives.

Bureau Proposed Amendments

Diana N. reviewed the discussions had with bureau leadership regarding their proposed amendments.

Group discussed moving the bureau proposed amendments forward as proposed in order to better consider the community proposals. Comm. Reddy raised concerns about creating a new independent authority outside of the governmental structure that the Commission created in phase I of its work but does appreciate the idea of including a climate emergency lens in the Charter to guide code and city work.

Group raised concerns that without something in the charter there wouldn't be any "teeth" in any future work. Group discussed whether placing a commission in the charter is appropriate or whether it should stay within policy and code.

Bureau of Planning and Sustainability Director Donnie Oliveira provided the group with information about cross-bureau work being done and the changes being made to the Sustainability Commission to give it better focus. Comm. Cruz asked what value Director Oliveira sees in putting something in the Charter? Director Oliveira stated that he loves the idea that the Commission is considering it a crisis worth investing in but also acknowledges that the climate crisis is creating new challenges that we never anticipated years ago. He cautioned the group not to be so prescriptive as to unintendedly tie the City's hands or prevent it from responding to future issues currently unanticipated.

Group discussed consolidating the proposals and finding areas of intersectionality and bring those back to the subcommittee for future consideration.

Next Steps

Co-chair Lewis provided information on upcoming meeting dates and thanked the group for their discussion. Co-chair Osman thanked the presenters for taking the time to present and for the depth of information provided.

Next subcommittee meeting would be August 23rd.

Next full commission meeting will be August 30th.

Meeting adjourned, 8:10 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Diana Shplet, Executive Assistant to the CAO and CFO

Meeting Chat


18:02:21 From Comm. Gloria Cruz to Everyone:

Hey all!

18:02:37 From Comm. Brenda Ketah to Everyone:

Hi Gloria!

18:03:34 From Comm. Bryan Lewis to Hosts and panelists:

 Hey everybody

18:03:53 From Comm. Debbie Kitchin to Everyone:

Good evening!

18:05:24 From rossybarrazaspanishcmi@gmail.com to Hosts and panelists:

¡Bienvenidos todos! La reunión de hoy se ofrecerá en inglés y español. Tome un momento ahora para seleccionar el idioma en el que le gustaría escuchar la presentación hoy. Si se une a través de una computadora de escritorio o portátil, haga clic en el ícono del globo con la leyenda "Interpretation" o "Interpretación" ubicado en la parte inferior derecha de la pantalla de su computadora. Si está usando la aplicación de zoom a través de un dispositivo móvil como un teléfono inteligente o tableta, presione los 3 puntos con la leyenda ("... más" o "...more") en la parte inferior derecha o superior derecha de su pantalla y seleccione el idioma que prefiere escuchar. Si desea escuchar la reunión en inglés, seleccione inglés o si prefiere español, seleccione español. Habilite Silenciar Audio Original.

Puede cambiar de canal en cualquier momento para escuchar la presentación en otro idioma, pero debe seleccionar uno para escuchar todo el contenido de hoy.

18:06:52 From Victor (interpreter) to sofia Alvarez-Castro(Direct Message):

Hi Sofia, for next time can you only assign me as interpreter on just one account, otherwise I'll be muted like today haha

18:07:13 From rossybarrazaspanishcmi@gmail.com to Hosts and panelists:

Welcome everyone! Today's meeting will be offered in English and Spanish. Please take a moment now to select the language you would like to hear the presentation in today. If you are joining us through a desktop or laptop computer, please click the globe icon with the legend "Interpretation" located at the bottom right of your computer screen. If you are using the zoom app through a mobile device such as a smartphone or tablet, press the 3 dots with the legend ("... more") at the bottom right or upper right hand side of your screen, and select the language you prefer to hear. If you want to hear the meeting in English select English or if your prefer Spanish select Spanish. Enable Mute original audio.

If you have difficulty finding these options or have any questions, please send a message in the chat box or raise your virtual hand on zoom now to get help.

Thank you and welcome!

18:07:22 From Victor (interpreter) to sofia Alvarez-Castro(Direct Message):

That's why I use two accounts so I can be heard I the non interpreting account

18:18:05 From Comm. Debbie Kitchin to Everyone:

This looks good based on what we discussed

18:19:24 From Comm. Debbie Kitchin to Everyone:

approve

18:19:27 From Comm. Bryan Lewis to Hosts and panelists:



18:23:52 From Diana Nunez (Staff) to Indi Namkoong (she/they) 350 PDX and all panelists:

Just an FYI We will promote you around 6:35.

18:24:05 From Diana Nunez (Staff) to Jena Cho Kain, 350 PDX and all panelists:

Just an FYI We will promote you around 6:35.

18:30:36 From Comm. Brenda Ketah to Everyone:

Thanks for all your work on this!

18:31:11 From Comm. Brenda Ketah to Everyone:
Thanks Comm. Reddy, my question as well!

18:32:54 From Comm. Gloria Cruz to Everyone:
Kaitlin - In the proposal submitted, do you have those cities and municipalities that have adopted the right of nature listed somewhere?

18:41:04 From Comm. Gloria Cruz to Everyone:
Yes, thank you both!

18:43:05 From Diana Nunez (Staff) to Danielle Maillard (she/her), Sunrise and all panelists:
We will promote you as a panelist around 6:40 or so. Thank you.

18:43:13 From Diana Nunez (Staff) to Danielle Maillard (she/her), Sunrise and all panelists:
and your team.

19:01:51 From Comm. Debbie Kitchin to Everyone:
thanks so much everyone. I have to sign off now and will watch the remainder of the meeting when the video is posted. See you in 2 weeks. Thanks to all our presenters tonight.

19:23:08 From Comm. Brenda Ketah to Everyone:
Thank you to all of our presenters today!

19:35:28 From Comm. Gloria Cruz to Everyone:
I would support that

19:39:17 From Comm. Hanna Osman to Everyone:
I like that suggestion

19:44:15 From sofia Alvarez-Castro to Andria Jacob (she/her) BPS and all panelists:
Hi! Are you willing to hop on the main charter meeting?

19:44:26 From sofia Alvarez-Castro to Donnie Oliveira and all panelists:
Hi! Are you willing to hop on the main charter meeting?

19:44:41 From Comm. Candace Avalos to Everyone:
?

19:45:33 From Comm. Candace Avalos to Everyone:
Donnie can join us

19:57:25 From Comm. Gloria Cruz to Danielle Maillard (she/her), Sunrise and all panelists:
Hello. Would love to connect - please email me at Gloria.cruz@portlandoregon.gov

19:59:18 From Comm. Hanna Osman to Everyone:
I agree

20:00:01 From Comm. Brenda Ketah to Everyone:
What was the timeline for community listening sessions on Phase II issues?

20:00:44 From sofia Alvarez-Castro to Everyone:
@brenda the first or second week of September

20:03:55 From Comm. Raahi Reddy to Everyone:
Thanks all! Have a good night

20:04:39 From Comm. Gloria Cruz to Everyone:
Thanks all! Appreciate your work.

20:04:43 From Comm. Brenda Ketah to Everyone:
Goodnight everyone!

20:04:58 From Comm. Candace Avalos to Everyone:
Goodnight, bye all!

20:05:00 From sofia Alvarez-Castro to Donnie Oliveira(Direct Message):
thank you for willing to jump in today!

20:05:17 From Comm. Gloria Cruz to Everyone:

That's right, I'll push that.

20:05:19 From Comm. Hanna Osman to Everyone:

Good night all. thanks for contributing

20:05:19 From Donnie Oliveira to sofia Alvarez-Castro(Direct Message):

Happy to join and support

20:05:27 From Comm. Hanna Osman to Everyone:

I will do that Diana

20:05:27 From sofia Alvarez-Castro to Everyone:

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