Sustainability and Climate Commission

Regular meeting – Thursday, September 18, 2025 – meeting minutes

Commissioner attendance

Name	Present	Absent	Name	Present	Absent
José Gamero-Georgeson – D1	x		Charity Fain – D3	x	
Damon Motz-Storey – D1	x		Stephanie Kaza – D3	x	
Celeste Ruiz – D1	x		Dan Trifone – D3	x	
Jessica Zahn – D1	x		Leah Almeida – D4	x	
Alina Pawchareune – D2	x		Sriya Chinnam – D4	x	
Maya Puggarana – D2	x		Angus Duncan – D4		x
Greg Retsinas – D2	x		Luna González González – D4	x	
Vivek Shandas – D2		x	Eesa Taylor – D4	x	
Galen Whalen – D2		x	Dana Visse – D4	x	
Nora Apter – D3	x		Suze Wehr – D4	x	

Alternate attendance

Name	Present	Absent
Garrett Wong – D2	x	
Carla Chen – D3	x	
Bee Sloan – D4	x	
Holland Burd – D4	x	
Skai Dancey – D4	x	

Staff attendance

Name	Role/bureau
Vivian Satterfield	Chief Sustainability Officer
Elaine Vizka Livingstone	Sustainability and Climate Commission Coordinator
Camille Trummer	Interplay; Lead Facilitator
Mika Ingram	Interplay; Social Impact Strategist
Ingrid Fish	Bureau of Planning and Sustainability
Wing Grabowski	Bureau of Planning and Sustainability
Julia Meier	Office of Community & Civic Life; Senior Strategic Projects Manager
Ocean Jasso	Office of Community & Civic Life; Advisory Bodies Program

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6:00 p.m. Meeting introduction and reminders - actual time: 6:00 p.m., video recording: 00:00:00

Chief Sustainability Officer Vivian Satterfield began the meeting welcoming the Commissioners, staff, and the public to the first regular meeting of the Sustainability and Climate Commission.

Facilitators from Interplay, Camille Trummer and Mika Ingram, introduced themselves and reviewed meeting reminders.

- Meeting agenda.
- Protocols for Zoom, including stating names and pronouns prior to speaking.
- Working agreements.

6:10 p.m. Public comment- actual time: 6:15 p.m., video recording time: 00:12:52

Two people signed up and each person had a maximum of three minutes to provide their public comment.

Albert Kaufman:

- Served on the Urban Forestry Commission
- Last City Council passed a resolution to ban gas powered leaf blowers – which will start up in January. Gas leaf blowers are incredibly polluting. California has banned all gas-powered leaf blowers. We should be following as a State and City.
- Leaf blowers are one of the only things happening, not other gas-powered yard equipment.
- City is slow in beginning the leaf blower ban.
- Notices are going out to yard workers. Workers dealing with worse impacts from these devices.
- Asks Commission to get involved in the ban and to add other equipment to the ban.
- Children and bikers are impacted.
- Gave thanks to the Commissioners for serving on the Commission.

Janice Thompson:

- Speaking as individual Portlander and informed by Charter Reform.
- Chief Sustainability Officer is on City's Leadership Team in Chief Administrator's Office.
- Commission work as direct pipeline to Service Areas under Deputy City Administrators.
- Commission advises on budgets:
    - Mayor's budget is developed by City Administrator.
    - Commission needs to advise Mayor, City Administrator, and City Council on budget.
- Mayor needs to hire a new Chief Administrator.

6:20 p.m. Briefing: Portland's new government and advisory bodies at the City - actual time: 6:22 p.m., video recording time: 00:20:43

Ocean Jasso, Advisory Bodies Program from the Office of Community & Civic Life, provided a briefing on Portland's new government. Ocean worked to receive Sustainability and Climate Commission applications for the inaugural recruitment of the Commission and offered congratulations to the Commissioners on their appointment.

Julia Meier, Senior Strategic Projects Manager from the Office of Community & Civic Life, provided a briefing on the City's Advisory Bodies Enhancement Project.

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- **Questions:**
  - Commissioner Maya Puggarana: What are examples of biggest inconsistencies you have seen so far with Advisory bodies?
    - Answer: Service restrictions – who cannot serve and who is eligible to serve. Legalize internal side – what goes into the creation of an advisory body is different for each commission. Bylaws are all very different even though provided with a template.
  - Commissioner José Gamero-Georgeson: If these changes are implemented, how would they affect all of the advisory committees currently in place?
    - Answer: Lots of things need to happen to implement the changes. First the project recommendations go to Council with big picture policy to put law into City Code with rule making and engagement opportunities for each step. Then adopt rules, then do implementation – how do we get alignment with new rules? For new advisory bodies the impact is immediate; existing bodies will have phased in roll-out. For example, restrictions for membership would apply as new Commissioners come in. New onboarding trainings, new orientations, new training for existing members and staff.
  - Commissioner Stephanie Kaza: Can you give us a couple of scenarios in which the messiness has caused a lot of trouble?
    - Answer: Behavior of advisory body members and relationship between liaisons that staff these bodies. We do not have training on this. Conflict between members and staff. Project will hopefully improve that.
    - Answer: Bylaw incompleteness, decision making frameworks are unclear, and as a result bodies can pause, stall, stop, and not be able to deliver recommendations to City Council.
  - Commissioner Dana Visse: What are the 94 different bodies? Is there overlap or shared scope? Can you identify where Commission missions overlap?
    - Answer: A piece of the enhancement project work is reviewing existing advisory bodies. Most exist within Service Areas of the city. Assessments will be made by the end of this calendar year for City Code clean up.
  - Luna González González: Does your work include drafting expectations on youth's role on advisory committees? If so, how?
    - Answer: It's an honor to work with a Commission that ensures youth representation. The purpose of the enhancement project is to create citywide practices, so no part of the city is unrepresented.

7:05 p.m. Break - actual time: 7:05 p.m., video recording time: 01:03:57

7:15 p.m. Opening remarks: Mayor Keith Wilson - actual time: 7:15 p.m., video recording time: 01:14:00

Mayor Keith Wilson emphasized his commitment to carbon reduction and environmental stewardship, noting progress in lowering emissions since 2022. He called on the Commissioners to set bold, science-based goals aligned with the Paris Agreement and to establish a Sustainability and Climate Commission to guide the work. Mayor Keith Wilson highlighted the leadership of Chief Sustainability Officer Vivian Satterfield, and the outsized success of Portland Clean Energy Fund (PCEF) as key assets in this effort. He affirmed that he will listen, push for data-driven solutions, and work with the Commissioners to achieve ambitious climate goals.

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7:20 p.m. Duties: Create Bylaws Committee - actual time: 7:28 p.m., video recording time: 01:26:33

Elaine Vizka Livingstone, Sustainability and Climate Commission Coordinator from the City Administrator's Sustainability Office, provided a briefing on the proposal for the Bylaws Committee.

- **Questions:**
  - Commissioner Damon Motz-Storey: Is there a sunset for the Bylaws Committee or will it continue in perpetuity?
    - Answer: City staff expect committee to meet for 3-6 months and sunset after the bylaws are completed.

Camille Trummer, Lead Facilitator from Interplay asked who is interested in serving on the Bylaws Committee. The following Commissioners and Alternates indicated interest:

- Commissioner Leah Almeida
- Commissioner José Gamero-Georgeson
- Commissioner Luna González González
- Commissioner Damon Motz-Storey
- Commissioner Maya Puggarana
- Commissioner Celeste Ruiz
- Commissioner Eesa Taylor
- Commissioner Dan Trifone
- Commissioner Dana Visse
- Alternate Holland Burd
- Alternate Garrett Wong

Camille Trummer, Lead Facilitator from Interplay, called the vote to create the Bylaws Committee. All present Commissioners voted "affirmative". Creation of the Bylaws Committee passed.

Camille Trummer, Lead Facilitator from Interplay, called the vote to appoint interested Commissioners to the Bylaws Committee. All present Commissioners voted "affirmative". Appointments to the Bylaws Committee passed.

7:55 p.m. Duties: Commissioners feedback form - actual time: 7:40 p.m., video recording time: 01:38:45

Camille Trummer, Lead Facilitator from Interplay, asked Commissioners to complete this feedback form tonight or tomorrow morning.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

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