



PDCC General Meeting

AGENDA

Virtual via Zoom (register)

Thursday, September 23, 6:30 - 8:00 PM

- Welcome & Introductions (6:30-6:40)
 - o Popcorn style: The Chair asked for participants to share their name, preferred pronouns (if comfortable sharing) and speak to our Icebreaker: Share a favorite moment or experience from this summer. (Charles, Kim, Susan, Rebekah, Karen, Harlan, Kenneth, Timothy, James, Sive, Eamonn, Ethan in attendance)

- Business (6:40-6:50 PM)
 - o Reports
 - Chair's Report
 - Thinking back to 1 year ago, a very important election
 - Then participating in the Georgia senate race
 - Voter Outreach activities in the spring
 - Charter Commission races in the early summer
 - Charity for the Abyssinian Church in Portland
 - Treasurer's Report

- August financial report ([here](#))
- July financial report ([here](#))
 - o Minutes approval
 - (Not enough for quorum to support adoption)
 - Approve minutes of May meeting ([here](#))
 - Approve minutes of July meeting ([here](#))



- Member Discussion (6:50-7:20 PM)
 - o What are some of the local and state issues that you are following closely right now? Comments:
 - Transportation
 - Unsustainable (we do not have enough money for roads and bridges)
 - Homelessness
 - Question A
 - PDCC should take a position on small shelter initiative
 - Homeless will not be solved with just one shelter
 - 4 or 5 shelters will take a long time to prepare
 - Homelessness is a problem for neighborhoods
 - Public safety and health issues
 - Sen. Susan Collins
 - Debt ceiling
 - Public Health
 - Mask mandate
 - Must come up at the next Council Meeting
 - Can we do a vote? We need a 7-day notice for voting
 - Do we take action?
 - Discussion/suggestions for PDCC to take a stand
 - With 7 days notice, we may be able to meet next Sunday night
 - o What opportunities do you see for PDCC to get involved in any of the three buckets of our mission?
 - Building an engaged community of voters, volunteers, and activists
 - Many people are not showing up/participating in discussions
 - 3 or 4 years ago, more people appeared to be involved
 - Being a strong voice in local and state policy decisions
 - Electing Democrats to all levels of political office
- Fall Preview (7:20-7:40 PM)
 - o City Council At-Large Forum
 - Are there forums planned already? No one knows
 - There was support for an At-Large Forum



- o PDCC Fall Fundraiser
 - We are hoping to do in-person outdoor event
 - We would like to create an event that is engaging and prepares for 2022
 - Maybe a public location (Payson Park)
 - Strong feelings on requiring vaccination? None
- o First Friday Tabling: Oct. 1
- o Voter Outreach Meeting: Monday, Sep. 27

- Charter Commission Update (7:40-7:45 PM)
 - o Marpheen joined to discuss Charter Commission and their progress
 - o Introductions- 1 of 12 of Charter Commission
 - Chairs the Elections Committee
 - Also on the Education Committee
 - There are 5 Committees, Governance, Departments, Administrative are others
 - Bumpy start with notices, minutes, email
 - The Charter Commission doesn't have paid staff
 - Committees are getting to work
 - Portland can do clean elections, but will need to figure out aspects
 - Universal voting will also be a topic
 - Preliminary report will need to be published in March
 - Hopefully on ballot for November election 2022
 - Are there opportunities for public comment? Yes, public hearings and public comment periods
 - Click on "government" on city website to see meeting listings
 - Does this go to citizens? Yes
 - Is there a push to make citizen initiatives harder? This is not on our radar
 - Send comments to charter@portlandmaine.gov

- Issue Campaign Presentation (7:45-7:55 PM)
 - o Presentation from Our Power Maine campaign
 - Andrew, Field Director from Our Power
 - We are a coalition pushing for citizen owned power
 - This would be independent and non-profit
 - Reliability, lower cost, and local control, are the goals



- We have a website at ourpowermaine.org
 - o Discussion, Q&A
 - No questions for Andrew
- Announcements (7:55-8:00 PM)
 - o Voter Outreach
 - o First Friday
 - o Help plan the Candidate Forum
 - o Help plan the Fall Fundraiser
 - o We have a vacancy for PDCC Vice Chair. Election to be held at October meeting.
 - o Mask mandates
 - o Homeless shelter conversation at next general meeting?
- Adjourn (8:00 PM)
 - o PDCC exec team will stay on the call after adjournment for any further informal discussion or questions from members