



Open to the Public

- All meetings of the city's commissions and committees are required to be open to the public and all persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting except as provided in the state's public meeting law.
- No Private meetings No quorum of a committee may meet in private for the purpose of deciding on or deliberating towards a decision on any matter except as provided in the State's public meeting law.

Definition of Meeting

- A "meeting" is any quorum of a commission/committee, which makes a decision towards a decision on any matter. This term is broadly construed and could include a social gathering at which a quorum is present and official business is discussed.
- Exceptions A "meeting" specifically does not include any onsite inspection of any project or program, or the attendance of the members of the commission/committee at any national, regional or state association to which the public body or the members belong.
- "Decision" means any determination on which a vote of the commission/committee is required, at any meeting at which a quorum is present.



If there is **NO QUORUM** there is **NO MEETING**

Meeting Requirements

- Smoking Prohibited
- Location All meetings must take place within the city limits of Ashland. With the exceptions of training sessions, joint meetings and emergency meetings.
- Right to Request
 Interpreter If special
 assistance is required to participate
 in a meeting, such a request should
 be made to the City
 Administrator's office at least 72
 hours in advance of the meeting

- No Public Right to Participate
- The right of the public to attend meetings does not include the right to participate.
- Unless a public hearing is required by ordinance or state statute or unless otherwise permitted by the commission/committee, the public may not participate in discussion at a public meeting.
- Conference Calls Public meetings can be held by conference call if at least one place is available for the public to listen and call in.



Minutes

 Written minutes must be taken for all public meetings

 Minutes do not have to be a verbatim transcript

- Minutes must include:
- List of members present
- Nature and disposition of all motions, proposals, resolutions, orders, etc.
- Results of all votes by name
- Substance of any discussion
- Reference to any public document discussed

Duties of the Chair

- Call the meeting to order at the appointed time
- Preside at all meetings
- Announce the business before the assembly in its proper order
- State and put to a vote all questions (motions) that are properly brought before the assembly

- Preserve order and decorum
- Decide all Questions of Order
- Don't interrupt a speaker as long as the person is in order
- Be careful not to appear to take sides while conducting a meeting



Public Records



ORS 192.005(5) defines public record:



"Public record" includes, but is not limited to, a document, book, paper, photograph, file, sound recording or machine readable electronic record, regardless of physical form or characteristics, made, received, filed or recorded in pursuance of law or in connection with the transaction of public business, whether or not confidential or restricted in use. (emphasis *added*)

Who has the Right to Inspect Public Records?



Notes



E-mails







Pictures

"Every Person" has a right to inspect any nonexempt public record of a public body in Oregon.



Public Ethics

 All Members of the City Council, **Commissions or Committees are** required to follow the Public Ethics Rules because they are "Public Officials."



Public Ethics

All Public
 Officials are
 required to follow
 the Public Ethics
 Rules.

 May not use public facilities or resources for personal use • A Public Official may not use the public position for the financial gain or detriment of the public official, their relative or any business for which they or their relative are associated.