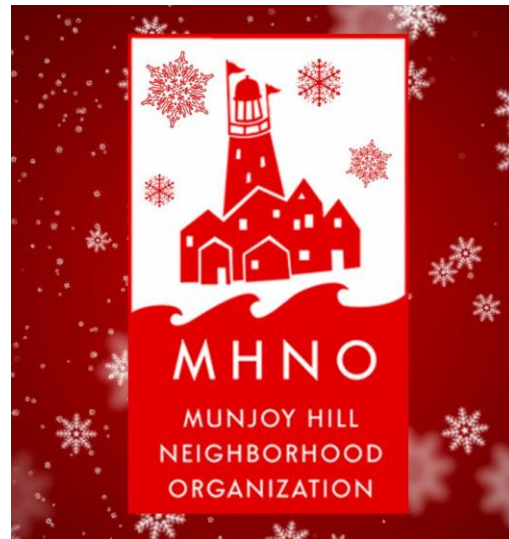


Munjoy Hill Neighborhood Organization

92 Congress Street
Portland, Maine 04101
info@munjoyhill.org
December 15, 2021



Proudly serving Portland's Munjoy Hill neighborhood since 1979.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS
FROM THE
MUNJOY HILL NEIGHBORHOOD
ORGANIZATION!



Happy Holidays
from
The MHNCO!



WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION TUESDAY DEC 21, 2021 AT 3:45 AT FORT SUMNER PARK

The Friends of Fort Sumner Park invite you to a Winter Solstice Event on Tuesday, December 21st at 3:45. Sip cocoa, munch cookies and share community overlooking Portland's skyline as the sun slips below the horizon on the shortest day of the year. The Winter Solstice, the first day of astronomical winter, marks the day when we stop losing daylight and once again enjoy gradually lengthening daylight.

(MHNO Trivia: The precise moment of the Solstice will be when the sun is exactly overhead the Tropic of Capricorn, which on December 21, 2021 will be at 15:59 UTC (Universal Time Coordinated)/formerly known as Greenwich

Mean Time. This day is celebrated in many cultures as the rebirth of the sun, signaling the gradual lengthening of days and shortening of nights. The official sunset in Portland on December 21st is at 4:07 pm. By New Year's Eve sunset will be 6 minutes later. Assuming this year follows normal patterns -- which seems like a big leap of faith in this second year of the Pandemic -- the amount of daylight will keep increasing until June 21, 2022, the Summer Solstice.

A Few Good Volunteers Still Needed to Shovel Snow for Elderly Neighbors this Winter



Help an elderly neighbor in need this winter! The MHNO, in collaboration with the Age-Friendly Portland Steering Committee, is looking for volunteers willing to shovel snow for an elderly neighbor this winter. Please contact MHNO's Coordinator of the Snow Shovel Squad, Karen Snyder, directly at k.snyder@munjoyhill.org. Last winter MHNO volunteers assisted approximately 12 frail elders by clearing sidewalks and making sure that pathways were open for Meals on Wheels Deliveries, access by in-home support providers, and similar services.



(Photo of Edith Knight Moulton, ca. 1900, courtesy of: Collections of Maine Historical Society.)



City's Charter Commission to Review Leadership Structure, Engage in "Self- Evaluation" 12/22 at 6:00 pm

The Charter Commission is continuing its work to examine the City's Charter to decide what changes, if any, to recommend. A preliminary recommendation is due by March 8, 2022 and a final report by June 8, 2022, unless extensions are granted.

The entire Charter Commission is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, December 22, 2021 at 6:00 via Zoom. The last full Commission meeting was on October 27th. In addition to committee reports, the other main agenda item is "Review of Commission's Leadership Structure and Support Needs" (detailed as affirmation that the executive committee members would like to continue in their roles, "self-evaluation" by the Executive Committee and committee chairs, and assessment of staffing needs). "Public comment" is also on the agenda, but its focus is unclear.

The final recommended charter revision will go to the voters of Portland for a majority vote to accept or reject. To be controlling, the election turnout has to equal at least 30% of the votes cast in Portland in the previous gubernatorial election.

You can find scheduled meetings and Zoom links on the City's Agenda Center: <https://www.portlandmaine.gov/129/Agendas-Minutes>. There have been multiple subcommittee meetings, sometimes up to 2-3 subcommittee meetings per week since October 2021, in addition to periodic full Commission meetings.

Preview of coming attractions from the City:

WINTER STORM REMINDERS

During the winter months, the Public Works Dispatch office is reachable at 207-874-8493 for customer service, and crews are assigned to respond to weather events. Major arterial roadways, hills and intersections are often treated before plowing operations begin, usually when 2" of snow falls. Plow teams concentrate first on major roadways and connectors to move traffic along before heading into residential areas.

The City's residential sand and salt pile will be located at the Little League parking lot at Payson Park. This sand and salt pile is for residential use only, contractors are not allowed. Residents can take two 5-gallon pails at a time.

ALERTS & PARKING BAN NOTIFICATIONS

The City can call a city-wide parking ban, a peninsula ban which covers the entire peninsula, or a yellow zone ban, which covers the downtown district.

Residents and visitors can view alerts on the City's website at www.portlandmaine.gov or sign up to receive email, text, and phone notices via the [Stay Connected](#) feature when [parking bans](#) are declared. You can also text the word *PortlandParkingBan* to 38276 to join. People can also get parking ban updates by following City news on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#). Motorists can also call the parking ban hotline at 207-879-0300.

CUSTOMER SERVICE HOTLINE

For customer service related to winter operations, please call 207-874-8493. For sidewalk plowing concerns, please call 207-874-8793.

PARKING

During An Active Parking Ban:

All vehicles left on the street during a snow parking ban will be towed at the owner's expense. Only cash, VISA, MasterCard, or Discover cards are accepted. Sorry, no checks accepted. The snow impound lot can be reached at 207-774-3025.

For snow ban parking options see: <https://www.portlandmaine.gov/393/Snow-Bans>. Please check the list each year as lot availability does change. This year there are changes to school lots due to construction activity.



PRESIDENT'S NOTE:

MHNO continues to be a vibrant, community-based organization. We could never have anticipated the great changes this past year and a half has brought. But these have only reinforced our mission. We are here for the people who live on or have businesses on Munjoy Hill. To do this, we need your help. Please join us, stay involved, and encourage your friends and neighbors to do the same. Change is not only good -- it's essential. We embrace new members, and welcome their thoughts, ideas and involvement. Please visit us at www.munjoyhill.org.

The next monthly business meeting of the 13-members of the Board of Directors of the MHNO will be held on Monday, January 3rd at 6:00 p.m. Monthly meetings are held remotely using Zoom. If you are a member of the MHNO and are interested in sitting in on the Board of Director's meeting, please send an email to info@munjoyhill.org and request that you be emailed a link to the MHNO Board of Director's meeting.

Happy Holidays and Best Wishes for a Safe 2022!

Wayne Valzania,
w.valzania@munjoyhill.org
President
