



REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

MINUTES SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 with all members in attendance.

2. Review and Approval of Minutes

Erik Robey made a motion to approve the minutes from September 9, 2020. Jim Thornton seconded. The September 9, 2021 minutes were approved with an unanimous vote.

3. Public Comment

1. **Stephanie Taylor, Director of Board of Elections, 133 Industry Lane, Forest Hill, MD** – Asked if the 408 precinct, that was originally thought it was a ghost precinct, could be combined with the 502 or 503 precincts because there are now two registered voters living in it. She asks for the change in order to preserve voter anonymity. She asked for the Commission to keep the smaller populated areas in mind when creating boundary lines in order to preserve voter privacy and lessen voter confusion, when possible.

4. Commission Work Session

Erik Robey presented his recommendations for map changes; he also emailed the Commission with these suggestions earlier in the day.

Map Change #1:

- Precinct 1-10 to Precinct 1-18. The area from Otter Point road to E Baker ave to the shoreline of the bush river changes from precinct 1-10 to 1-18 and changes from council district A to F

Map Change #2:

- Precinct 1-7 South East of Singer road to the boundary of 1-6 and 1-1 goes from B to A, with the area North of Singer road becoming part of 3-7

Map Change #3:

- Precinct 1-2 South east of Route 95 becomes precinct 1-4 and moves into District A. The area north of 95 remains 1-2 and stays in District B.

Map Change #4:

- Precinct 2-02 The area to the South West of Rt 22 becomes precinct 2-04 and goes from District D to District E. The area North of Rt 22 remains as part of Precinct 2-02 and District D.

Map Change 5:

- Precinct 6-4 is eliminated and merged with the new precinct 2-02 and becomes part of District D.

Jim Thornton had a question and Mr. Sidik responded. Mr. Sidik had a question and Mr. Robey responded. Wayne Goddard had a question and Joel Gallihue responded. Mr. Goddard handed out information to the Commissioners that he had worked on regarding the population deviation of each district using the numbers he was given last week. He explained the handout. Mr. Goddard proposed the change suggested by Bel Air's Mayor Amy Chmielewski, as shown by a map she submitted.

Mr. Gallihue explained the tool that he is using to visually present the maps to the Commission. Mr. Robey made a suggestion regarding the area around Moore's Mill Road. Mr. Gallihue explained the tool's limitations. Mr. Thornton asked a question regarding how the process will be for them making suggestions and approving changes. Mr. Sidik and Mr. Gallihue responded. Mr. Robey made comments. Mr. Thornton made comments. Mr. Gallihue made additional comments.

Erik Robey left the meeting at 6:30 PM.

Mr. Goddard made a motion that "Option 1" would be Mr. Robey's suggestions and "Option 2" will be Mr. Goddard's suggestion. Mr. Thornton seconded. All were in favor.

Mr. Thornton had comments and a question for Mr. Gallihue. Mr. Gallihue responded. Mr. Sidik made comments.

Christine Bracknell spoke to her draft press release that she had distributed to the Commissioners earlier today. She was okay with Mr. Goddard's edits that were also distributed via email to the Commission earlier today. Mr. Kearney suggested that the Commissioners include a deadline for submission of maps and the October 1st date that the Commission must present to the County Council. Mr. Goddard made a motion to include the new dates in the press release and Mr. Thornton seconded. It was approved unanimously.

Mr. Thornton had a question for Mr. Gallihue in regard to obtaining the public school boundaries. Mr. Gallihue responded. There was discussion regarding the school districts.

Mr. Sidik provided an action item for next meeting: 1) Mr. Gallihue will get a timeframe about how long it will take to make the proposed changes from Mr. Robey to a map.

Mr. Sidik offered time to each Commissioner to make comments. Mr. Goddard, Ms. Bracknell, and Mr. Thornton made comments. Mr. Kearney will have the Council Administrator reach out to Mr. Sidik regarding having a virtual outreach meeting.

Mr. Thornton had additional comments regarding the public comment made at the last Redistricting meeting. Mr. Kearney made comments. Mr. Goddard made comments. Mr. Thornton had more comments. Mr. Sidik made comments.

Mr. Sidik said that an extension of the October 1, 2021 deadline was requested and he will follow up with the Council on it.

5. Adjournment

Mr. Thornton made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Goddard seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 PM.

Approved



Chairperson


Date