

Redistricting Commission

City of College Park

Thursday, June 9, 2022

7:00 p.m.

Hybrid Meeting

Members	Present	Absent
Betty Colonomos	X	
Val Graham	X	
Alan Hew	X	
John Krouse	X	
Delmar Nelson		X
Nathan Rickard	X	
Marilyn Yang	X	
Fritz Leopold		X
D.W. Rowlands	X	
Jordan Dewar	X	
Robert Day	X	
Staff and Others		
Bill Gardiner, Assistant City Manager	X	
Jacob Vassalotti, City GIS Analyst	X	
Suellen Ferguson, City Attorney	X	
Carleveva Thompson, Contract Secretary	X	

**I. Call to Order**

Mr. Day called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

**II. Review and Approval of Agenda**

The Commission reviewed the agenda and no changes were made.

**Ms. Rowlands motioned to approve the agenda. Second by Ms. Dewar. All members in favor; no opposed. Motion carries, 9-0-0.**

### **III. Review and Approval of Minutes**

The Committee reviewed the May 23, 2022 meeting minutes.

**Mr. Day motioned to approve the minutes as presented. Second by Ms. Rowlands. All members in favor; no opposed. Motion carries, 9-0-0.**

### **IV. Presentation by D.W. Rowlands**

Ms. Rowlands provided a presentation on correct terminology, types of neighborhoods, voting rates by neighborhoods, the location of the neighborhoods, and the challenges of the census count for large buildings.

Per the charge of the Commission, must make four 2-member districts and criterion of the sum of population and actual voters. The Federal law states that the equal population have no more than 5% variance from ideal district and requirement is for total population and not voters.

The presentation reviewed the 2010 districts that were established in 2011 and the Commission needs to determine if the 2010 districts are adequate. The voting data is showing more voters than people.

Mr. Vassalotti stated University of Maryland may be able to provide the number of students that live in off-campus student housing.

Preliminary conclusions show Districts 1 and 3 need to gain residents and Districts 2 and 4 should lose residents to make an equal population. District 1 should lose the high voter neighborhood.

The Commission needs to know the following information:

- Number of beds in private dorms
- Information on new buildings that were not open in April 2020
- Population of fraternities/sororities
- Information on Monument Village

Decisions the Commission will need to make:

1. How to deal with census/bed count discrepancies.

2. Should new development be taken into account and if so, how do we estimate the number of residents?
3. How comfortable are we splitting blocks?
4. How to balance conflicting requirements of compactness, equal population, and equal criterion.
5. What dorm communities shouldn't be split?
6. What neighborhoods shouldn't be split?
7. What do we consider to be neighborhood boundaries?

**V. Discussion on the use of a consultant**

Mr. Gardiner asked the Commission to consider authorizing a consultant to help with the project. The Committee discussed various tasks the consultant could help with for the project and decided to use the consultant for the following:

- Verify methodology
- Verify numbers are correct
- Verify if assumptions are reasonable

**Ms. Rowlands motioned to use a consultant as an ad-hoc agreement. Second by Mr. Hew. All members in favor; no opposed. Motion carries, 9-0-0.**

**VI. Next Meeting and Future Dates**

The next meeting will be determined.

**VII. Adjournment**

Mr. Day adjourned the meeting at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Carleveva Thompson, contract secretary