



Meeting Minutes - Approved AD HOC REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE

Thursday, August 12, 2021

4:00 PM

Via Virtual Meeting

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Brain Grady (staff) called the meeting to order at 4:03pm.

Present: 7 - Lindsay Lemmer; Nasra Wehelie; Arvina Martin; Charles Myadze; Austin S. Johnson; Justice M. Castañeda and Joan I. Schwarz

INTRODUCTIONS

Committee members and City staff introduced themselves.

ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

Ald. Martin nominated Castañeda to be the Chair. Johnson seconded. There were no objections; the election of Castañeda as Chair was approved unanimously.

Castañeda nominated Johnson to be Vice Chair. Martin seconded. There were no objections; the election of Johnson as Vice Chair was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

1. [66839](#) Public Comments

Caryl Terrell, 19 Red Maple Trail, Madison, spoke on behalf of the League of Women Voters. Caryl endorsed a nonpartisan process moving forward expeditiously so the maps can be used for the Spring 2022 election. Caryl endorsed public input and engagement.

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

None.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

2. [66782](#) Redistricting Process

Grady presented background information on:

- Existing alder districts and wards.
- The Committee's timeline for its work.
- Federal redistricting requirements, communities of interest, and redistricting principles.
- Requirements for creating and adjusting wards.
- Local criteria for creating aldermanic districts from the 2011 process.
- Local communities of interest (COIs) that were used in the 2011 process.
- What data the Census Bureau will be releasing for use in redistricting.

- A comparison of 2001 vs. 2011 alder districts.
- City staff estimates of residential growth since the 2010 census.
- Town areas that will be absorbed by the City between now and 2030 under existing intergovernmental agreements.

The Committee and alders who were present discussed redistricting:

- Ald. Lemmer: Should we take into account other areas that may be annexed earlier than the final absorption date under existing agreements? Grady: While municipal boundaries are a community of interest, Madison can request that the County and State draw their Supervisory and Assembly district boundaries at our future boundary. By using our future boundary, annexations in these areas wouldn't require creating new wards.
- Ald. Furman: How will today's data differ from the information released in September? Grady: It will be the same information, just in different formats.
- Ald. Foster: Will the City be working with the same application the County is using to gather input from the public? Grady: The City will refer to Representable, which the County is using, but will not be using the "District Builder" software the County is using. Given the compressed timeline, it will be very difficult to generate and synthesize many versions of maps. Ald. Foster: please look in to whether District Builder could be used for the City process. Grady: Staff will look into District Builder and also the State's WISE-LR software.
- Ald. Figeroa Cole: Will redistricting impact where kids go to school? Grady: It does not impact where kids go to school.
- Castañeda: Please forward the resolution creating the Committee for review.
- Ald. Martin: What criteria are other cities in Wisconsin and around the country using? Grady: We'll need to keep the required criteria , but can review others to revise.
- Castañeda: Is there other information that the Committee requires that staff has not presented?
- Ald. Foster: The sooner that alternatives can be generated for discussion the better.
- Castañeda: Does the Committee have thoughts for discussion items for next week's agenda? Grady: Can focus on data and COIs.

SET FUTURE MEETINGS

The consensus of the Committee was to continue to move forward with weekly meetings on Thursdays.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Ald. Lemmer to adjourn. Seconded by Ald. Wehelie. There were no objections, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm.