

Redistricting Commission Public Meeting via Zoom

City of College Park

Monday, October 10, 2022

Final Minutes

6:30 p.m.

Members	Present	Absent
Betty Colonomos	X	
Val Graham (a 6:45pm; d 7:35pm)	X	
Alan Hew	X	
John Krouse	X	
Delmar Nelson	X	
Nathan Rickard	X	
Marilyn Yang	X	
Fritz Leopold (a 6:45pm)	X	
D.W. Rowlands	X	
Jordan Dewar	X	
Robert Day	X	
Staff and Others		
Bill Gardiner, Assistant City Manager	X	
Suellen Ferguson, City Attorney	X	
Jacob Vassalotti, City GIS Analyst		X
Sam Mathur, ARCBridge Consulting		X
Priti Mathur, ARCBridge Consulting		X
Sheryl DeWalt, Contract Secretary	X	

I. Call to Order

Mr. Day called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

II. Review and Approval of the Agenda

The Commission reviewed the agenda and Mr. Day asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

Ms. Colonomos motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Second by Ms. Rowlands. All members in favor, no opposed. Motion carries, 7-0-0.

III. Discussion from the City Council Worksession of October 5, 2022:

Council is appreciative of the work that has been done so far and the public information received on the Commission's work. However, City Council wants to see a map that more closely resembles the current boundaries and which has the sum of actual voters and population not exceeding 5% to 7½% from the ideal number.

Of the two maps [ARCBridge Map B2 and Commission Map 3A], map 3A keeps single family residences together and changes where students live. This is more of what City Council is looking for as far as district boundaries.

IV. Discussion of new draft maps and the number of maps to present to Council:

Ms. Rowlands submitted three more maps for review and discussion [Attached to minutes].

Map 1: Shows the UMD north side dorms to District 2 and the south side dorms to District 4. The sum of the actual voters and population in each district are as follows:

District 1 – 9,721
District 2 - 10,659
District 3 – 10,019
District 4 – 10,518

Map 2: Allows Cherry Hill and Autoville to remain in District 4, as the Council seemed to prefer this. All residences in Berwyn, south of Greenbelt Road, remain in District 2, but some commercial buildings are no longer in District 2. Some of District 2, north of Greenbelt Road, would now be in District 1.

Map 3: Splits UMD where the south dorms are in District 2 and the north dorms are in District 4. However, the University View would be split with the rear building in District 4 and the front building in District 2 along with the Varsity.

Comments from the committee members:

- Mr. Rickard - Map 1 has the largest populations in District 2 and District 4. This is the clearest map for City Council.
- Ms. Colonomos thanked Ms. Rowlands for a great job.

- Mr. Day thinks Map #1 is the best one. District 4 will like map #2. He also concurs that all three maps should be given to City Council; the original three maps were better. It's up to City Council to decide which map to use.
- Mr. Krouse stated that District 2 is not content with the large addition of single-family homes; Mr. Day concurred. Previous maps proposed districts that are more equitable.
- Ms. Graham stated that District 2 ends up with five or six civic associations. Map 1 is the least favorite. Send all three maps to City Council and let them decide.
- Mr. Hew believes that Map 3 will add to the confusion. Maps 1 and 2 need a better explanation of what the numbers mean.
- Ms. Yang thinks that splitting the top and bottom of UMD seems irrational. Previous maps were better, but it seems that no one likes the consultant maps.
- Ms. Dewar agrees to send all the maps to City Council. The current maps are better than the consultant maps, but the previous maps were much better.
- Mr. Nelson agrees to give all maps to City Council and let them make a decision on what maps to use.

V. Motions.

- **Mr. Krouse made a motion** that the Redistricting Commission resolve that the original three 2023 population data maps developed for consideration of the City Council are more aligned with the original charge of the Commission and with the City Charter, and that those three maps present more equitable divisions of Council Districts by population and voters than the three additional maps developed at the request of City Council and submitted for approval on October 10, 2022. **Ms. Colonomos seconded the motion. Motion carries 11-0-0.**
- **Ms. Dewar made a motion** to send all three maps to City Council. **Ms. Yang seconded. Motion carries 11-0-0.**

VI. Miscellaneous

Mr. Gardiner will draft notes to send to the commission for final review. There may be more meetings to finalize all minutes and any other business. He will also inform City Council that no further maps will be created. The final report will include the three maps as a separate appendix.

VII. Adjournment

Ms. Colonomos motioned to adjourn the meeting. Second by Ms. Rowlands. All members in favor, no opposed. Motion carries, 10-0-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Sheryl DeWalt, contract secretary