

Meeting Notes

Attending/Present

ACRC Commissioners	ACRC Interns	MMD Commissioners
Joan Ramsey	Nicholas Glass	Dominic Mazza
Mark McCumber	Liane Espino	Marie Campbell
Sita Subbaram		Adrienne Kisse
Thomas Clingan		
Julia Reeb		
Larry Volk		
Leif Hartmark		
Patricia Sibia		
Warren E. Hamilton		

Discussion Items

Mapping RFP responses

- Joan, Sita, and Julia went through the 3 RFP responses received by the deadline, filled out a matrix, and independently scored the proposals.
- Benjamin Center proposal was received after the deadline (late submission). Sita and Julia evaluated the Benjamin Center but Joan did not.
- All three reviewers rated AppGeo the highest. Their stated cost was \$62,500.
- Motion made to approve App Geo as our mapping provider. Motion passed with 7 votes, with Patricia and Leif abstaining since they did not have a chance to review the proposals or see the matrix/scoring before voting.

- Patricia asked if the reviewers could send an excel sheet with all the scoring as this an official record of how they were chosen and Julia forwarded it.
- MMD will be doing its own RFP for Mapping Services

Counsel RFQ responses

- Two RFQ's for counsel were by December 27th, the date for final submissions.
- Leif, Tom & Warren reviewed all proposals, but weren't able to verbally discuss, but got to correspond through email (also completed scoring sheet with the leading vendor).
- Two proposals: New York Law School (\$60,000) & Law Firm of Massena, Parrillo & Hill (whose submission was shorter/deficient in their response). All reviewers chose New York Law School.
- The cost will be \$60,000 + reimbursable expenses + if there was litigation, there would be an additional cost
- In the New York Law School proposal, Jeff Wice had a \$10,000 additional cost for minority analysis which wasn't well explained in the proposal.
- Tom explained if we do go with the \$10,000, the county has a policy that if the additional money needed does not exceed 50% of the contract, we do need the approval, but it shouldn't be an issue.
- Mark raised whether there was value in the MMD Commission choosing them as well, and paying the \$10,000 additional cost for the minority analysis. Marie stated that the MMD should handle it separately.
- Larry made the motion to approve New York Law School and Leif seconded. 6 votes were approved and 2 abstained (Leif & Patricia) (Larry didn't vote)
- Leif shared the evaluation of the legal services with Larry and Patricia – but it will also need to be shared with all the commissioners (email to RedistrictingCommission@AlbanyCountyNY.gov)

Follow up on the contracts

- The contracts needs to entered into the County system be approved by the county's 3-member contract board (required for all contracts between \$20,000-\$100,000)
- Larry Volk will contact Patrick Collins to formally enter the contracts and ask Patrick to see these through to signatures— get adopted.
- It was agreed that the subcommittee would go back and check references. It was assumed best to go forward with the approval of contracts while this occurred because time is of the essence.

- Mark asked if the New York Law School can be used for the MMD so that the ACRC can pay \$60,000 and have the MMD just pay the \$10,000 (slide the MMD's proposals under ours)

Admin Notes

- We reviewed, made updates for last meeting's minutes & Larry made the motion to approve (all 9 commissioners + MMD approved)
- Patricia wanted to make sure all MMD members make sure they get their county emails so they can be added to the website as well as the contact list
- Comments from Commissioners on agenda: Please change all open items to closed once things are decided
- Please look at SharePoint and provide feedback. [Click this link for the SharePoint](#) site.
- Patricia suggested that we put together small group (someone from ACRC and Marie and someone from MMD) to do 2 separate websites or two separate sections for the MMD. Joan will be working with Patricia on the website
- Everyone approved sub-committee on how the website looked/formation of it

Public Hearing Date (s)

- Discussion about holding a public hearing in February (too late to plan for January)
- In order for a good public hearing, we need to engage the public (making social media a priority, a huge presence)
- Patricia had suggested making a Facebook account, as it may be needed for live-streaming public hearings.
- Patricia asked if we had planned in terms of a public hearing to just include the ACRC or is the MMD included as well. Tom suggested having both Redistricting and MMD together for the public hearing. There was general agreement on this, but also separate hearing for just MMD.
- Tom had spoken with a Times Union reporter (Steve Hughes) the prior Tuesday as he wanted to know information on the redistricting commission. Tom let him know that we do not have a spokesperson, but we have a chair (Larry). He gave him knowledge on the Local 8 law – also told him that we will be having 4 public hearings, the first one hopefully being in late January/early February
- With regards to the press, a story right before the public hearing could be the center of an article.
- A press release is suggested by Marie
- Joan asked if we all could get a copy of the Consent Decree from the lawsuits (also which districts should be drawn first, drawn last). Asked Larry to provide.
- Patricia felt that we should go through the legal training that the legal counsel provides before the public hearing, but it was noted that the first public hearing will be listening session, so not necessarily needed.

- Mark wanted to know if we can do a reading list to make sure what is it that we need to know
- Mark stated that the timeline and adding of the training can be updated.
- Patricia & Warren stated we should be familiarized with the voting rights acts, federal voting, and redistricting issues
- WCAA Radio Station- 107.3 – Warren suggested contacting them—a good resource to release our information. Libraries were also mentioned as a good way to get the information out.
- Public Information – discussion about potentially hiring someone to do it

MMD Updates:

- 7th member for the MMD is still being worked on
- Legal services RFP in process and also working on the mapping services

Other:

- Indemnification – County attorney noted we are covered.
- Lawsuits — ended in a consent decree: have all the commissioners read it to know what we should/shouldn't be doing