

Albany County Redistricting Commission [Minutes: April 04, 2022]

Attendance

ACRC Commissioners	Interns	MMD
Joan Ramsey	Nick Glass (ACRC)	Marie Allen Campbell
Warren E. Hamilton	Nassim Ramdani (MMD)	Constance Graves
Larry Volk		Dona Bulluck
Patricia Sibia		Dominic Mazza
Thomas Clingan	Guests:	Adrienne Kisse
Sita Subbaram	Jeffrey Wice	
Leif Hartmark	Priya Sankalia	
Julia Reeb	Ashley Tardif	
Mark McCumber	Marissa Zanfardino	

Chairman Volk convened the meeting at 4:02 PM and called the roll (see above.) There were no Minutes of previous meetings ready for consideration at this time.

Marie Allen-Campbell Informed the commission that the venue for the public hearing on April 14th was moved from the legislative chamber to the Cahill room. The county reached out to newspapers to update our advertisements to reflect the change.

Professor Wice Informed the commission that the ability to hold public meetings online was potentially running out after our hearing on April 14th and that those that wanted to participate would have to attend future meetings in person (if meetings reverted to a physical format). Commission members can participate through zoom if they cannot make it to the in-person meeting, but their location needs to be advertised in the meeting notice and the public needs to be able to access them. A permanent location for future meetings after the 14th has not been determined and a new time for meetings might need to be established for in person meetings. If commission members participating through zoom are not in an announced location with public access, they would not have the ability to vote. Further discussion decided public meetings would not need to be held on zoom, but it was decided zoom should still be used for commissioners who could not participate in person, and recordings will still be required. The dates for the third and fourth public hearings were also announced to the commission to be set for the tentative dates of Thursdays, May 26th and June 16th and a vote was passed to have the time be set for 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm.

The commission discussed the agenda for the upcoming April 14th public hearing. Discussion was held discussion whether the MMD was going to present their current MMD renderings at the hearing which they affirmed they were. Discussion was also held about including a section in the hearing to address potential confusion with mapping software and to further show how MORE

works. This discussion led to the decision to hold another meeting on the 13th to finalize hearing details whose time was TBD. The commission further discussed if there were people, that we wanted to invite to speak at the hearing it was stated we wished to reach out to legislators. Public engagement assignments were reviewed to make sure assignments were understood along with expectations. Patricia also stated her intention to create a new flyer for the hearing that would hopefully be more attention grabbing. Warren informed the commission that radio announcements were available to the commission for outreach purposes and wanted to make sure outreach was equal targeted to all interested stakeholders.

Joan informed the commission that the map she had previously shared with the commission was put together by Lars Dahl and that he would be willing to assist anyone else with creating maps of their own. It also brought up the fact that maps made outside of MORE would not be available for public viewing but would be put into App Geo's software for consideration in final map creation unless recreated in MORE. Further discussion was held regarding concerns regarding the technical challenges that may present themselves in a hybrid setting and what support we could expect for our hearing on April 14th. Another meeting was also set to further show the commission how the MORE software works to get our preliminary maps started.

The next regular ACRC meeting will be on April 11.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:06 pm.

Meeting notes prepared by Nick Glass.