

Albany County Redistricting Commission [Minutes: May 09, 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	Larry Mauldin
Leif Hartmark	Priya Sankalia	
Julia Reeb	Ashley Tardif	
Mark McCumber	Marissa Zanfardine	
	Russell Cohen	

Chairman Volk convened the meeting at 4:04 PM and called the roll (see above.) The previous Minutes from May 2nd were approved (1 abstention).

The commission discussed the current ACRC draft map from May 3rd. Some members have not been able to review the map, and were unable to attend either map review session. This then led to a discussion about the need to release the map to the public in advance of our May 26 public hearing. After further discussion, a vote was held to release the map to the public, which passed with 7 votes in favor of approval and 1 abstention.

The commission after the vote then discussed how best to engage the public with our draft map so that the most people possible will see it. There were then talks about a potential press release or press conference, as well as reaching out to the municipalities and the legislators with the new map, as well as posting on social media. It was decided a press release would be drafted by Tom and circulated for comment and hopefully ready to release once AppGeo converts the map for public viewing and it is posted on our website, which could be as early as May 10th. Patricia committed to creating a flyer.

Marie cautioned that the MMD subcommittee may well be releasing a revised MMD map before the ACRC public hearing on May 26th, and possibly before the MMD's next hearing on May 18th. This led to further discussion about whether ACRC should therefore hold off releasing its first draft map in order to incorporate these possible MMD changes in the map in time for the ACRC May 26th hearing. It was decided ACRC would release its first draft map but clearly warn that this first draft map was subject to change should the MMD subcommittee revise its map. We will need to explain any potential discrepancies to the public ahead of time.

Discussion then turned to the ACRC hearing on May 26th and the need to confirm the location of this hearing as soon as possible. As of now we do not have a confirmed location and need to lock one down with the county.

The next regular ACRC meeting will be at 4 pm on May 16th.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:44 pm.

Meeting notes prepared by Nick Glass.