

Albany County Redistricting Commission [Minutes: June 20, 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 Sibilila		Dominic Mazza
Thomas Clingan	Guests:	Adrienne Kisse
Sita Subbaram	Jeffrey Wice	Larry Mauldin
Leif Hartmark	Priya Sankalia	
Julia Reeb	Ashley Tardif	Guests:
Mark McCumber	Marissa Zanfardino	Priti Mathur
	Lisa Handley	Sam Mathur

NOTE: THIS MEETING INCLUDED EXTENSIVE DISCUSSION THAT CANNOT BE FULLY CAPTURED IN THIS SUMMARY. INTERESTED PARTIES MAY WANT TO VIEW THE FULL VIDEO RECORDING FOUND at the following link:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a2zm2ZflxcA&list=PLUA4Hrlg6QpZ4JkZ58obd50WPS hazlsX9&ab_channel=AlbanyCountyRedistrictingCommission]

Chairman Volk convened the meeting at 4:06 PM and called the roll (see above).

The commission began by discussing moving the Monday July 4th meeting to later in the week. After discussion, it was agreed to move this meeting to Tuesday July 5 at 4 pm instead. Progress Report Number 3 was discussed, and approved for public release with all six ACRC members in attendance voting in favor.

The commission then discussed the final report draft. They also clarified some of the expectations regarding the formatting of sections of the report. A commissioner asked how the commission wanted to facilitate collaboration in drafting the final report and it was decided a SharePoint folder would be made to hold all the individual section drafts. Professor Wice stated that the report should include a complete list of all persons who testified, submitted testimony, and/or submitted maps. Another Commissioner asked the MMD subcommittee members if they wanted to handle describing the six proposed MMD districts. An MMD member suggested that consideration be given to presenting statistics on all the legislative districts in a spreadsheet. District narratives should keep to factual information.

The commission then reviewed arrangements for the upcoming public hearing on June 30. Some favored minimal presentations by ACRC and the MMD subcommittee; others felt that information should be presented about all changes made to districts. One of the commission members then said that he believed if a presentation was given, it should focus only on the

changes made from the last iteration. The commission and MMD sub-committee then considered preparing enlarged maps to display at the final public hearing. This led to a commission member asking if the Commission has received the transcripts of the last 2 hearings. There was then discussion concerning the advertising for the final public hearing, and about who would handle producing and distributing fliers for that hearing on June 30th.

A commissioner suggested that the commission should try to finish the mapping and final report by July 14th, which is the expiration date of the Governor's latest emergency order permitting remote meetings. He believed this was a reasonable target to aim for. Depending on testimony received at the upcoming hearing (and any changes to the MMDs by the subcommittee), there could be need for multiple meetings in the first two weeks of July. This led to some discussion about commission member vacation plans and other potential scheduling issues in July. It is also necessary to update the Commission's timeline.

Discussion followed on what specific information needs to be included in the final report and how to format the information to be most useful to the County Legislature and the public. Legal counsel reminded the commission that its work technically is not finished until a Local Law on the redistricting is actually adopted. The commission then continued to discuss issues and ideas around formatting the final report, and assuring that all the information (including that posted on the website) is preserved for use in 2030 and beyond.

The next ACRC meeting will be on Monday June 27th at 4 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:01 pm.

Meeting notes prepared by Nick Glass, and reviewed by Tom Clingan.