



REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

MINUTES
AUGUST 18, 2021

1. Call to Order

The Harford County Councilmanic Redistricting Commission meeting was held in Council Chambers, 212 S. Bond Street, Bel Air, MD on August 18, 2021. It was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mustafa Sidik, Chair. All members, except for Erik Robey, were in attendance.

2. Approval of Minutes

James Thornton made a motion to approve the minutes from June 30, 2021. Christine Brecknell seconded. The minutes were approved with an unanimous vote.

3. Commission Business Meeting

a. Communications Plan

Mustafa Sidik made comments regarding the Commission's various options for communication. He has spoken with the County's Communication Director, Cindy Mumby, who said she would share the Commission's press releases to the County's Facebook page. Mr. Sidik asked for a motion to approve the use of the County's Facebook page. James Thornton made a motion; Ms. Brecknell seconded. It was opened for discussion. Mr. Thornton made comments. Ms. Brecknell also made comments. Wayne Goddard voiced his concerns, but said he was not opposed to using the County's Facebook page. Having 4 votes in the affirmative and 0 in the negative, and 1 absent (Robey), the use of the County's Facebook page was approved.

b. Timeline

Mr. Sidik said the Commission should be getting the census numbers the first week of September. He would like to discuss a schedule and the possibility of obtaining an extension in getting the completed maps to the Council. Mr. Goddard said he felt asking for an extension now is premature. Mr. Thornton expressed his opinion in favor of asking for the extension. Ms. Brecknell said that she felt the Commission should be proactive and made a motion that they should ask for an extension until November 1, 2021. Mr. Thornton seconded the motion. It was opened for discussion. Mr. Goddard explained why he felt the request is premature. Mr. Thornton had comments. Ms. Brecknell had additional comments. Mr. Sidik made comments and said they should work towards the October 1, 2021 deadline and if they are granted an extension, they can use those dates, as needed. Having 3 votes in the affirmative, 1 in the negative (Goddard), and

1 absent (Robey), the motion to request an extension of the deadline was approved.

c. Dates for Next Meetings

Mr. Sidik suggested that the next meeting be on Wednesday, September 1 and to invite the Community Advisory Boards, as well as the GIS person that Ben Lloyd, Harford County's Director of Administration, will provide the Commission. Suggested dates for next month are September 1, 9, 13, 15, 20, 22, 27, & 30. Mr. Thornton made comments. Everyone agreed on the dates.

d. Comments from the Chair

Mr. Sidik spoke with Mr. Lloyd, who requested a written request from the Commission for a GIS person.

Mr. Sidik said they should start now to draft the framework of the report they will present to the Council. Mr. Sidik asked Mr. Goddard. Mr. Goddard suggested Mr. Thornton. Mr. Thornton deferred to Mr. Goddard. Mr. Goddard agreed to start the framework and share it with the other Commissioners.

Mr. Thornton had a question regarding the current school districts and how they overlay the councilmanic districts. He requested to get those school maps.

Mr. Goddard made comments regarding the GIS maps.

4. Public Comment

There were no people signed up to speak.

5. Adjournment

Mr. Goddard made a motion to adjourn; Mr. Thornton seconded. All in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 6:19 PM.

Approved _____

