PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES - SEPTEMBER 14, 2021
8:01am

In Attendance: **Location: Virtual via Google Meet**

Chairwoman Erika Neuberg
Vice-Chair Derek Watchman
Commissioner Shereen Lerner
Commissioner David Mehl
Commissioner Douglas York

Executive Director, Brian Schmitt
Deputy Director Lori Van Haren
Public Information Officer, Michelle Crank
Community Outreach Coordinator, Marie Chapple
Community Outreach Coordinator, Alex Pena

Roy Herrera, Esq. Ballard Spahr
Jillian Andrews, Esq. Ballard Spahr
Danielle Arrelano, Esq. Ballard Spahr
Brett Johnson, Esq. Snell & Wilmer
Eric Spencer, Esq. Snell & Wilmer
Mark Flahan, Timmons Group
Brian Kingery, Timmons Group
Doug Johnson, NDC Research
Ivy Beller Sakansky, NDC Research

Dr. Jim Change, Arizona State Demographer

Debbie Wilks, Transcriptionist

I. Call to Order and Roll Call *(5:40 YouTube)*

A. Call for Quorum

B. Call for Notice

Present:

Chairwoman Neuberg

Vice-Chair Watchman

Commissioner Lerner

Commissioner Mehl

Commissioner York

A quorum is present.

Executive Assistant Valerie Neumann confirmed that the meeting agenda was properly posted at least 48 hours prior to the meeting.

II. Approval of minutes from August 31, 2021 *(7:49 YouTube)*

A. General Session

Vice-Chair Watchman motioned to approve the General Session Minutes from August 31, 2021, Commissioner York seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0.

III. Opportunity for Public Comments *(9:01 YouTube)*

At 8:04am Chairwoman Neuberg opened public comments and indicated that public comments would be open for a minimum of 30 minutes and would remain open until the adjournment of the meeting.

IV. Discussion on Public Comments received prior to the Sept. 14, 2021 meeting. *(9:47 YouTube)*

The Commission reassured the public that all six criteria will be thoroughly considered and evaluated during the redistricting process.

V. State Demographer's Presentation. *(13:10 YouTube)*

Dr. Jim Change, the Arizona State Demographer gave a presentation on Race and Hispanic Origin in Arizona. *This presentation has been posted on the IRC Website.*

VI. Update from the mapping Consultants, Timmons/NDC. *(1:11:09 YouTube)*

A. Updates
B. Mapping Software public training
C. Community of Interest Report Discussion
D. Discussion and possible adoption of Grid Maps
E. Best Practices after Grid Maps

Mark Flahan updated the Commission on the success of the mapping software public training that they provided yesterday. Flahan advised that short clip training videos will continually be added to the website. The Competitiveness and Polarized Voting Reports are not ready to present to the Commission yet.

Flahan provided a summary of the Community of Interest Report.

The Grid maps were presented to the Commission by Timmons/NDC. A motion was made by Commissioner to adopt the presented Grid Maps, seconded by Commissioner Mehl. The motion was approved unanimously 5-0.

Doug Johnson from NDC gave a presentation on redistricting "Best Practices" for the Commissioners.

VI. Executive Director's Report and discussion thereof. *(2:53:59 YouTube)*

A. Outreach Update
B. Budget Update
C. Grid Map public Hearings Update

The Community Outreach team provided outreach updates. The team has been in contact with the Arizona Library Association, and the Arizona Library Archives and Public Records Department to make them familiar with the IRC and to help direct the public to our website. A link of free wifi located throughout the state will be available on the IRC website.

The team is also working on simplifying the mapping content to be able to push it out to the IRC's partners and the communities of interest they have been working with.

A Social media toolkit will be distributed this week that will incorporate how to utilize the mapping software and how to maneuver through the mapping hub. Information is being posted to our social media sites.

Executive Director Schmitt gave an update on the IRC budget. Since the Commission does not know the future challenges they will face, a big chunk of the budget has been set aside for legal fees and travel.

The upcoming grid map public meeting schedule was presented listing the main and satellite locations. The schedule will be posted to the IRC website, sent out via press releases, social media and via contacts throughout the state..

VII. Discussion of future agenda item requests. *(3:08:42 YouTube)*

A request for a presentation on the Latino population in the state with a connection to the Voting Rights Act, and a deeper dive into some of the economic drivers in the State of Arizona.

IX. Announcements. *(3:22:22 YouTube)*

There were no announcements.

X. Next Meeting Date. *(3:22:35 YouTube)*

The next meeting will be September 21, 2021 at 8:00am.

XI. Closing of the Public Comments. *(3:23:19 YouTube)*

Public Comments were closed at 11:19am.

XII. Adjournment. *(3:23:47 YouTube)*

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Mehl, Vice-Chair Watchman seconded the motion. The motion was approved 5-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:21am.

Minutes taken by Valerie Neumann, Executive Assistant 9/14/21