

DISTRICT BOUNDARIES REVIEW BOARD MINUTES
AUGUST 9, 2012

1. ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm.

Present at the meeting were Julie Aitkin, Mary Carlton, Michael Crowley, Tom Gill, Chris Love, and John Stevens (arrived at 6:05 pm). Ricki Kasse, Roy Roberts and Leisa Saltzman were absent. Also present were Mayor Judy Paul, The Mellgren Planning Group representative Scott Burton and Town Clerk Russell Muniz recording the meeting.

2. SELF-INTRODUCTIONS

Members present introduced themselves and spoke briefly about their backgrounds.

3. PRESENTATION

Mr. Burton introduced himself and provided an overview of the redistricting process. He provided a suggested timeline schedule outlined in the PowerPoint presentation. Mr. Burton stated that the first round proposed options should be provided to the Board by August 27th, 2012 via email. He added that there would be two meetings followed by a Town Council District Review Board Workshop. Town Clerk Muniz clarified that the purpose of the workshop is to go over the different options in a discussion setting with Council. Mr. Burton added that the workshop was a new process.

Mr. Burton continued discussing the proposed schedule outlining the dates of Town Council hearings. **Ms. Carlton** asked what the deadline was for the entire process. Town Clerk Muniz responded that there was a timeliness component in that if the district boundaries were to change in the March 2013 election that the information would be needed for the Supervisor of Elections sometime in November. He stated that he would notify the Board with the exact date.

Mr. Burton continued the presentation in discussing the definitions of redistricting. He described the process used in the 2006 District Boundaries Board decisions. Mr. Burton went on to describe the criteria that includes population equality, geographic integrity and compactness and preservations of communities of interest. He discussed the current populations by district and indicated that the ideal population per district was 22,997 which was also defined as the mean. He added redistricting is achieved through the consultant, the Board and workshops with Council.

Ms. Carlton asked for clarification that they did or did not have to follow the traffic analysis zones. Mr. Burton responded the Board would be using the US Census Blocks. He added that it was not used with the previous Board as the Census data was from 2000.

Mr. Love asked if areas heavy in business were considered in the population numbers. Mr. Burton replied that it was not.

Ms. Carlton asked if compact referred to not just the geographical shape but the people contained within. Mr. Burton explained that compactness is actually dealing with the geographic area designed to minimize gerrymandering.

Ms. Aitken stated that the current district map is not very compact and asked if the consultant would create a scenario restoring it to compactness. Mr. Burton responded that he would be looking at compactness and continuity of existing districts. Ms. Aitken stated that there were some communities of interest that felt disenfranchised and not compact. She added that she hoped that the Board would be given a range of scenarios that would not just incorporate population and minimal changes but actually put it back the way it should be. Mr. Burton stated that was the goal of working with the Board to achieve these goals.

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Ms. Carlton asked Mr. Burton to clarify the role of the Board. Mr. Burton stated as the consultant he would provide options to the Board to modify and make recommendations. He added that all suggestions should be forwarded to Town Clerk Muniz who in turn will forward them to him.

Mr. Love asked for clarification on what are communities of interest. Mr. Burton stated that in Davie it is defined as homogenous in nature and at the next level in the communities in connection with each other and therefore it is driven by homeowners associations.

4. SELECTION OF CHAIR

Michael Crowley made a motion, seconded by Chris Love to nominate John Stevens as Chair.

In a voice vote, the vote was as follows: Ms. Aitkin - no, Ms. Carlton - no, Mr. Crowley - yes, Mr. Gill - yes, Ms. Kasse (absent), Mr. Love - yes, Mr. Roberts (absent), Ms. Saltzman (absent), Mr. Stevens - yes. (Motion carried 4-2)

Mary Carlton made a motion, seconded by Julie Aitkin to nominate Julie Aitkin as Chair.

In a voice vote, the vote was as follows: Ms. Aitkin - yes, Ms. Carlton - yes, Mr. Crowley - no, Mr. Gill - no, Ms. Kasse (absent), Mr. Love - no, Mr. Roberts (absent), Ms. Saltzman (absent), Mr. Stevens - no. (Motion carried 2-4)

5. SELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR

Michael Crowley made a motion, seconded by Tom Gill to nominate Julie Aitkin as Vice-Chair.

In a voice vote, all voted in favor. (Motion carried 6-0).

6. MEETING SCHEDULE

The Board's next meetings were scheduled for:

Thursday, August 30th at 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 13th at 6:00 p.m.

7. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

The Board was in agreement with the agenda items laid out by Mr. Burton in his presentation.

8. COMMENTS AND/OR SUGGESTIONS

Ms. Aitken asked if the scenarios would be emailed to the Board in advance. Mr. Burton stated that each scenario draft would be sent out for review as they were completed. He confirmed with the Board that all were familiar with Google Earth and that he would utilize this feature with the scenarios. Mr. Burton stated that he was using GIS maps with various layers.

Mr. Crowley asked if permits would be part of the consideration. Mr. Burton stated that the data would be based on the population block. He added that certificate of occupancy would be one of the layers that will be provided.

Mr. Love stated he was not that familiar with the Sunshine Law and asked if he would be in violation if contacting the consultant directly. Town Clerk Muniz stated that technically this was not a violation however it was established earlier in the meeting that any inquiries should be directed through him and he would forward on.

Town Clerk Muniz spoke briefly about the Sunshine Law and asked that board members become familiar with the law and adhere to it.

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9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business and no objections, Ms. Aitken motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Crowley. In a voice vote, all voted in favor. (Motion carried 6-0). The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.