



City of Pensacola

DISTRICTING COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

October 27, 2021

4:00 P.M.

City Council Chambers

CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mack at 4:00 P.M. She noted the attendance of the Commission's legal counselors Meredith Crawford of Clark Partington Law Firm and Sharmin Hibbert of Pittman Law Group. Also, Supervisor of Elections David Stafford and Deputy SOE Chris Heaney.

ROLL CALL AND DETERMINATION OF QUORUM

Members Present:

Diane Mack, John Jerralds, William Brancati, Jewel Cannada-Wynn, Jarah Jacquay, Samuel Mathews, Eric Stevenson

Members Absent:

None

Members of the public may attend the meeting in person. City Council encourages those not fully vaccinated to wear face coverings that cover their nose and mouth.

Members of the public may also attend and participate via live stream and/or phone.

To watch the meeting live visit: cityofpensacola.com/428/Live-Meeting-Video.

To provide input:

- Citizens may submit an online form available on the City's website www.cityofpensacola.com (direct link to be distributed) **beginning at 1:00 P.M. until that agenda item has been voted upon** to indicate they wish to speak to a specific item on the agenda **and include a phone number. Staff will call the person** at the appropriate time so the citizen can directly address the City Council using a telephone held up to a microphone. **Any form received after an agenda item has been voted upon will not be considered.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES**1. [21-00950](#) APPROVAL OF MINUTES: DISTRICTING COMMISSION MEETING DATED OCTOBER 13, 2021**

A motion to approve was made by Commission Member Cannada-Wynn and seconded by Commission Member Jerralds.

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7	Diane Mack, John Jerralds, William Brancati, Jewel Cannada-Wynn, Jarah Jacquay, Samuel Mathews, Eric Stevenson
No: 0	None

PRESENTATIONS

None

ACTION ITEMS

None

DISCUSSION ITEM

Chairperson Mack indicated the purpose of this meeting was as a workshop for Commission Members and that public input will be heard during the open forum segment of the meeting. She requested all attendees to sign-in and anyone wishing to address the Commission during open forum should fill out a speaker request card and present it to the City Clerk.

2. [21-00948](#) CONDUCTING THE DISTRICTING PROCESS

Chairperson Mack explained the work of the Commission needs to be completed at the next meeting (on 11/3) with a vote on a Proposed Redistricting Plan followed by a period of at least thirty (30) days of public availability for inspection and comments, after which the Commission shall hold a public hearing in December; and then the Proposed Redistricting Plan will be considered by City Council at a meeting in January (13th or 20th to be determined upon Council's schedule of meetings for 2022). In response to Commission Member Canada-Wynn's question, if Council disapproves the Proposed Redistricting Plan, it will be returned to the Districting Commission for revision with the ultimate deadline for resubmittal to City Council by February 8th.

DISCUSSION ITEM (CONT'D.)

Ahead of discussion, Chairperson Mack read the following into the record: 1) City Charter Section 6.08(d) *Districting Plan; Criteria*; and 2) a document emailed (on 10/21) to the Commission by Council Executive Kraher providing *Data Analysis from 10/13/21 SOE Proposed City of Pensacola Redistricting Map* (on file with background materials). Then based on the criteria listing, she confirmed that the work of the Commission in preparing a Proposed Redistricting Plan has met all five (5) criteria delineated in the City Charter, further that the Commission's work included focus on maintaining a minority-majority for Districts 5 and 7 in concurrence with the City's history on minority representation.

Chairperson Mack then provided each Commission Member an opportunity to comment on their discussions since the last meeting with their district constituents and Council Member representative. **Some discussion took place regarding Districts 6 and 7 related to constituency concerns of neighborhood association boundaries of the Tanyards and Belmont-Devilliers. SOE Stafford referred to a revised map with census data (presented via live software on overhead as well as hardcopies provided - - on file with background materials) proposing changes to the southern portions of Districts 6 and 7 to address the concerns. It was clarified that the proposed revision to District 7 still provides for maintaining as a minority-majority district.** SOE Stafford, Deputy SOE Heaney, and Council Executive Kraher fielded comments and questions throughout discussion.

Upon conclusion of discussion, there were no objections to the revisions for the southern portions of Districts 6 and 7.

Some follow-up discussion took place regarding Commission Members further addressing issues raised by constituents between now and next week's meeting. Chairperson Mack re-emphasized the criteria provided in Charter Section 6.08(d) which the Commission has addressed in the Proposed Redistricting Plan that has been developed by the Commission through its meetings and encouraged Commission Members to educate their constituency. SOE Stafford made follow-up remarks relating the work of the City's Districting Commission to the districting processes also taking place by the Escambia County Board of County Commissioners and the School Board of Escambia County. Final remarks were made by Legal Counselor Hibbert indicating the process by which this Commission has adhered to is on target.

OPEN FORUM

James Gulley: Addressed the Commission regarding concerns related to Districts 6 and 7 impacting Tanyards and Belmont-DeVilliers neighborhood associations and thanked the Commission and SOE staff for taking them into consideration with the proposed adjustments.

Chairperson Mack made follow-up remarks.

NEXT MEETING

November 3rd, 4:00 P.M., City Council Chambers.

ADJOURNMENT

4:50 P.M.

Approved:_____