



City of Pensacola

DISTRICTING COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

November 3, 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. [21-00981](#) APPROVAL OF MINUTES: DISTRICTING COMMISSION MEETING DATED OCTOBER 27, 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 ITEM

Chairperson Mack indicated the purpose of this meeting was for the Commission to vote on a proposed districting plan which public input will be provided for prior to the vote. She requested all attendees to sign-in and anyone wishing to address the Commission should fill out a speaker request card and present it to Council Executive Kraher.

2. [21-00983](#) DISTRICTING PLAN: A PLAN FOR DIVIDING THE CITY INTO DISTRICTS FOR THE ELECTION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS.

Recommendation: That the Districting Commission prepare a Districting Plan to be available for public inspection and comment.

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

Commission Member Cannada-Wynn inquired of the **proposed districts map provided via hardcopies (referenced as *SOE Proposed Map 2.5*, along with *SOE Data 2.5*, and *Data from 10/27/21 SOE Proposed City of Pensacola Redistricting Map* - - on file with background materials)**. Chairperson Mack clarified the proposed map and data provided reflect discussion at the 10/27 meeting providing tweaks for District 6 and District 7 based on discussion regarding the Tanyards and Belmont-DeVilliers neighborhood associations' boundaries.

ACTION ITEM (CONT'D.)

Discussion ensued among Commission Members. During discussion, SOE Stafford provided an update on districting processes of the Escambia County Board of County Commissioners and School Board of Escambia County and reported on the joint meeting held by those bodies to address elevation of precinct splits between districts.

Public input was heard from James Gulley.

Commission Member Mathews inquired of language for the description of proposed boundaries. Chairperson Mack indicated that is not a part of the motion on floor but that it will be discussed next.

There being no further discussion, Chairperson Mack clarified the motion on the floor is for approval of a Districting Plan (as provided by *SOE Proposed Map 2.5 and SOE Proposed Data 2.5*) to be made available for public inspection and comment. She called for the vote.

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

Following up on Commission Member Mathews' inquiry (above prior to the vote), Legal Counselor Crawford explained that language describing the proposed district boundaries will be developed. Commission Member Mathews asked how access will be provided to disseminate the information to interest parties. Council Executive Kraher indicated once he receives the language for Legal Counsel, he will forward to Commission Members and City Council Members. Chairperson Mack inquired of public access which Council Executive Kraher clarified he will work with City IT staff to post on the City's website the proposed districting plan approved by the Commission along with the description of proposed boundaries to be made available for public inspection and comment. He will also work with the City Clerk to send out a media notice of the availability of the proposed districting plan for public inspection and comment.

DISCUSSION ITEM**3. [21-00985](#) SETTING A PUBLIC HEARING DATE FOR THE DISTRICTING PLAN**

Chairperson Mack explained that a commitment is needed as to the date when Legal Counsel will provide the language for the proposed districting plan in order to set the public hearing at least 30 days after being made available for public inspection and comment. Legal Counselor Crawford indicated they could commit to providing the language required within a week. **Chairperson Mack clarified that the information would be sent by Legal Counsel to Council Executive Kraher by November 10th and then allow him and staff time to make the information available for public inspection and comment by November 15th. Providing the required minimum of 30 days, she suggested the Commission schedule a meeting for December 15th beginning at 5:30 P.M. to conduct a public hearing.**

A motion to schedule a meeting for December 15th beginning at 5:30 P.M. to conduct a public hearing was made by Commission Member Cannada-Wynn seconded by Commission Member Stevenson.

There being no discussion, the vote was called.

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

OPEN FORUM

None

NEXT MEETING

December 15th beginning at 5:30 P.M., in City Council Chambers to conduct a public hearing.

Prior to adjournment, Council Executive Kraher made comments commending the Commission on their expeditious and diligent work to accomplish the task in preparing a districting plan. Chairperson Mack made follow-up remarks indicating it was an honor and pleasure to serve with fellow members.

Some follow-up discussion took place regarding next steps following the public hearing and providing a recommendation to City Council for consideration. Council Executive Kraher clarified the process per City Charter Section 6.08. Chairperson Mack elaborated explaining that she will appear before the Council to provide a summary of the Commission's work along with Legal Counsel who will present the recommended Districting Plan for Council's consideration. She encouraged all Commission Members to attend the Council meeting to be recognized for their contributions (to be scheduled at a regular meeting in January).

ADJOURNMENT

4:29 P.M.

Approved: December 15, 2021