

City of Albany Reapportionment Commission

Virtual Meeting

Wednesday, June 22, 2022

5:30 PM

Members Present			
Shawn Morris, Chair	Dylan Carey	Dale Getto	Carol June-Washington
Emily Loughlin, Secretary	Dr. Brenda Robinson (joined at 5:36 PM)		
Members Absent			
Scott Allardice	Judith Mazza		
Staff Present			
Danielle Gillespie, City Clerk	John-Raphael Pichardo, Esq., Counsel to the Common Council		

- Shawn Morris called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM without a quorum.
 - Dr. Brenda Robinson joined at 5:36 PM which made a quorum at that time.
- The Common Council is still seeking applicants to fill the two vacant Commission seats.
- Carol June-Washington posed a question on the timing and format of training from Caliper on the Maptitude program.
 - Danielle Gillespie noted that Caliper agreed to do a personalized training session for the Commission. The Commission needs to decide whether to wait for the vacant seats to be filled first.
 - A consensus was reached to schedule the training as soon as the budget for the program is finalized and paid to Caliper.
- Discussion of Census vs. population data in the reapportionment process.
 - Per John-Raphael Pichardo, Esq., proposed lines must be based on Census data per the Third Department decision in *Thayer v Garraghan*, 28 AD2d 584, 585 [3d Dept 1967].
- Discussion of what data can be obtained through Maptitude and how it can be used.
 - Dylan Carey shared his initial manipulation of the 2020 Census data in Excel.
- Discussion of the guiding principles of the reapportionment process.
 - The following were proposed:
 - Wards to be as proportional in size as possible (legally, no more than 5% off the mean).
 - Maximizing number of majority-minority districts.
 - Minimize division of traditional neighborhood lines.
 - Conduct public outreach and education efforts.
 - Enumerate and respond to public concerns and recommendations.

- Dale Getto proposed posting a survey to the public to submit their input.
- John-Raphael Pichardo, Esq. noted that two public hearings would be required within 30 days of any proposed maps being made. Two public hearings are required within 45 days to solicit input on proposed maps.
 - It will be confirmed if the Commission is bound by this recently legislated provision.
- Discussion of timing, format, and number of public hearings.
 - Danielle Gillespie recommended a hybrid format to reach the widest group of community members.
 - Shawn Morris suggested forming a Public Outreach Committee.
 - Carol June-Washington suggested holding the first public hearing in mid-July.
 - Thursday, July 14th was tentatively selected.
- The next Commission meeting is on Thursday, June 30th. The details of the planned public hearing will be discussed further.
 - An additional virtual meeting will be held on Wednesday, July at 5:30 PM.
- Dr. Brenda Robinson motioned to adjourn and Carol June-Washington seconded at 6:38 PM.