

**REDISTRICTING COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
DALLAS CITY HALL, ROOM 6ES
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2011**

2011 MAR -2 AM 9:00

CITY SECRETARY
DALLAS, TEXAS

Commission Members Present:

Dr. Ruth Morgan, Chair
Gary Griffith
Donna Halstead
Mary Hasan
Elizabeth Jones
Jon Brooks Love
Daniel "Corky" Sherman
Tom Wood
John Loza
Domingo Garcia
Mark Hord
Billy Ratcliff
Stanley Mays
Hollis Brashear

Staff Present:

Yasmin Tolliver, Redistricting Manager
Barbara McAninch, Asst. City Attorney
Daisy Torres, Redistricting Coordinator
Peter Bratt, Redistricting Coordinator
Arlcia Herron, Office Assistant
Warren Ernst, Administrative Asst. City Attorney
Danny Solis, Board and Commission Manager
Debra Watkins, City Secretary

Commission Members Absent:

None

Members of the Public Present: 1

Media Present: None

6:31 P.M. Meeting called to order by Chair, Dr. Ruth Morgan.

1. Opening Remarks and Introductions of Newly Appointed Members
 - Dr. Morgan, Chair, welcomed everyone to the Redistricting Commission meeting. Reminded Commissioners that meetings are recorded. Announced that a quorum is present to conduct the meeting. She asked Commissioners that were not present during the last meeting to introduce themselves.
 - Commissioners Brashear, Mays, Ratcliff, Garcia and Hord introduced themselves and briefly shared what they planned to contribute to the commission.
2. Approval of February 8, 2011 Minutes
 - Redistricting Commission Action: February 15, 2011
 - Motion: Sherman
I move the approval of the Tuesday, February 8, 2011 minutes.
Seconded: Loza

Ayes: 14
Nays: 0
Motion Passed: 14-0 (unanimously)

3. Public Speaker Sign Up Deadline

Dr. Morgan, Chair suggested that public speaker sign-up sheet be available before meetings with a sign up deadline. Redistricting Commission Action: February 15, 2011

- Motion: Loza

I move that the Commission establish a rule that public speakers sign up to speak by 6:15 pm on the day of the meeting.

Seconded: Brashear

Ayes: 14

Nays: 0

Motion Passed: 14-0 (unanimously)

4. Board and Commission Service Requirements

- Debra Watkins, City Secretary introduced herself and discussed requirements to serve on the commission and introduced Danny Solis.
- Danny Solis, Board and Commission Manager, discussed qualification for service, attendance, Dallas City charter, and 12A of the Dallas City Code.

5. Redistricting Guidelines

(Dr. Morgan suggested the following procedure for reviewing the draft guidelines:

- City Attorney will go over and review the draft guidelines
- Open floor to questions and discussion of draft guidelines
- Commission can offer suggestion of guidelines they would like added and considered. A list can be compiled before Wednesday noon if commissioners think of other guidelines they would like considered at the next meeting of the commission.)
- Barbara McAninch, Asst. City Attorney discussed Guideline #1 Population Equality.
- Dr. Morgan, Chair opened floor for questions. Questions by Commissioners Halstead, Morgan, Brashear, Loza, Jones, and Ratcliff were answered by Barbara McAninch, Asst. City Attorney
- Barbara McAninch, Asst. City Attorney discussed Guideline #2 Contiguity and Compactness.
- Dr. Morgan, Chair opened floor for questions. None.

- Barbara McAninch, Asst. City Attorney discussed Guideline #3 Minority Representation
- Dr Morgan, Chair opened floor for questions. Questions by Commissioners Halstead, Sherman, Brashear, Mays and Garcia were asked and answered by Barbara McAninch.
- Barbara McAninch, Asst. City Attorney discussed Guideline #4 Incumbents
- Dr Morgan, Chair opened floor for questions. None

Dr. Morgan, Chair opened floor for suggested guidelines for consideration for next meeting. Commissioner Jones asked for definitions for certain redistricting terms that are referred to in materials. Commissioner Ratcliff would like to know if guidelines could be amended later. The Chair explained that when the Redistricting Guidelines are approved by the Commission, they will be forwarded to the City Council for adoption. At that time the Redistricting Guidelines will be final and used by the Commission and the public throughout the redistricting process.

7:22 P.M. Dr. Morgan, Chair announced at 5 minute break

7:28 P.M. Dr. Morgan, Chair called meeting to reconvene

6. Software Demonstration

- Michael Miller, GIS Technical Manager, gave a brief presentation on the software.
- Dr. Morgan, Chair opened the floor for questions. Commissioners Garcia, Wood, Jones, Ratcliff, Halstead, Brashear, had questions as to when software would be available and getting it for personal use. Mr. Miller answered questions and estimated that an in-house version of the public use version of software for map drawing would be ready by June 1st.

7. Public Speakers

- Dr. Morgan open floor for public speakers and none were present

8. Board and Commission Appointee Required Training

- City of Dallas Ethics (dvd sound was distorted and video was delayed, postponed until later date).
- Texas Attorney General's Office Open Meetings Training was held for all Commissioners who had not been certified previously.

9. Additional Questions/Final Remarks

There were none.

10. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 9:12 pm.

Ruth Morgan

CHAIR
Wesley Tollin

COMMISSION ADMINISTRATOR

Note: For detailed information on meeting refer to the tape retained on file in the Redistricting Office.