

**REDISTRICTING COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
DALLAS CITY HALL, ROOM 6ES
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2011**

2011 FEB 16 AM 11:00

CITY SECRETARY
DALLAS, TEXAS

Commission Members Present:

Dr. Ruth Morgan, Chair
Gary Griffith
Donna Halstead
Mary Hasan
Elizabeth Jones
Jon Brookes Love
Daniel "Corky" Sherman
Tom Wood
John Loza

Staff Present:

Yasmin Tolliver, Redistricting Manager
Barbara McAninch, Asst. City Attorney
Daisy Torres, Redistricting Coordinator
Peter Bratt, Redistricting Coordinator
Arlicia Herron, Office Assistant
Tom Perkins, City Attorney
Warren Ernst, Asst. City Attorney
John Rodgers, Asst. City Attorney

Commission Members Absent:

Domingo Garcia
Mark Hord

Attendance Special Notes:

Billy Ratcliff, Stanley Mays, and Hollis Brashear attended as part of the general public having been nominated to serve on the Redistricting Commission, but pending approval by the City Council. **Included in the *Public Present* count.

Members of the Public Present: 7

Media Present: Dallas Morning News and Al Dia

6:32 P.M. Meeting Called to order by Chair, Dr. Ruth Morgan

1. Opening Remarks
 - Dr. Morgan, Chair, welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Redistricting Commission.
2. Welcome and Introductions
 - Yasmin Tolliver introduced the Redistricting Team members and additional attorneys present.
 - The Commission members introduced themselves and briefly shared what they planned to contribute to the commission.
3. Legal Orientation
 - Assistant City Attorney Barbara McAninch provided a Legal Briefing on the rules regarding service on the Commission, attendance requirements, requirements of members, indemnification, duties of the Commission, procedures for hearings and quorum requirements, the Dallas City Code

Conflicts of Interest and Code of Ethics, Financial Conflicts of Interest under State Law, disclosure requirements for gifts, actions required in the event of a conflict of interest, the prohibition of unfair advancement of private interests, the law regarding gifts to public officials under the Texas Penal Code; the Dallas City Council Resolution regarding gifts to members of commissions and reporting requirements for gifts, the rules regarding representation of others before the Commission and for one year after service on the Commission, the rules prohibiting certain political activity while serving on the Commission, prohibited interests in contracts with the City, the open meetings and open records requirements, and the parliamentary rules under the Dallas Code of Conduct .

4. Closed Session

At 7:09 pm Dr. Ruth Morgan, Chair, closed the meeting for an executive session pursuant to Section 551.070 of the Texas Open Meetings Act to obtain a legal briefing from the City Attorney.

At 7:22 pm Dr. Ruth Morgan, Chair, reopened the session to the public.

5 Redistricting Guidelines

- Assistant City Attorney Barbara McAninch presented Redistricting Guidelines Legal Principles and responded to questions from members of the Commission.

Dr. Morgan, Chair, suggested the members of the Commission read an article by Peter Wattson, *How to Draw Redistricting Plans That Will Stand Up in Court*, as a resource for developing guidelines.

Dr. Morgan, Chair, asked if there were any objections to having Assistant City Attorney Barbara McAninch prepare an initial draft of the Redistricting Guidelines for discussion and review at the next meeting. There was no objection.

At 7:34 pm the Commission took a 5 minute break

At 7:39 pm Dr. Morgan, Chair called the commission back into session

6. 2010 Census Update

- Redistricting Manager Yasmin Tolliver presented a briefing.

7. Review of Redistricting Commission Process

- Redistricting Manager Yasmin Tolliver presented a briefing

8. Discussion of Work Plan

- Dr. Morgan, Chair, presented the proposed work plan calendar.

- The following decisions were made by consensus of the members:
- The Commission Retreat will be held Saturday, March 5, 2011 from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm.
- The Commission will take a summer break the week of July 18-22, 2011.

9. Additional Questions/Final Remarks

- Dr. Morgan, Chair, asked if there were any additional questions. There were none.

10. Public Speakers

- Members of the public were given an opportunity to speak to the Commission. There were no public comments.

11. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Ruth Morgan
 CHAIR
Spencer Toll
 COMMISSION ADMINISTRATOR

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