

**REDISTRICTING COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES
DALLAS CITY HALL, ROOM 6ES
TUESDAY, APRIL 19, 2011**

Commission Members Present:

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

Staff Present:

Yasmin Tolliver, Redistricting Manager
Barbara McAninch, Asst. City Attorney
Peter Bratt, Redistricting Coordinator
Daisy Torres, Redistricting Coordinator
Arlicia Herron, Office Assistant
Lindsay Kramer, Demographer
Richard Knapp, GIS

Commission Members Absent: 0

Members of the Public Present: 3
Media Present: 1

6:01 P.M. Meeting called to order by Chair, Dr. Ruth Morgan. A quorum was present.

1. Opening Remarks
 - No opening remarks.
2. Approval of April 12, 2011 Minutes
 - Motion: Commissioner Halstead moved to approve the Tuesday, April 12, 2011 minutes.
 - Seconded: Commissioner Hord
 - Ayes: 11
 - Nays: 0
 - Motion Passed: 11-0 (unanimously)
3. Staff Updates

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- Yasmin Tolliver, Redistricting Manager, presented information on the following topics.
 - Public Hearing Schedule Update:
Emails and 950 postcards have been sent to Home Owners Associations, Neighborhood Associations, and Crime Watch groups in the City of Dallas' database. Council Assistants have also sent the flyer to their contacts and other community leaders. All hearings held at non-city owned facilities will have two police officers present inside the building and one police officer will patrol the parking lot.
 - The agenda for the public hearings are as follows: The hearing will start with a welcome and introduction of commission, a quick presentation about the redistricting process and the timeline of redistricting process. The Redistricting Commission chair will talk about the purpose of the public meeting, and then the public will have a chance to make public comments that will be followed by a wrap up, commissioner comments and then adjournment of the hearing.

4. Commissioner District Reports

- Commissioner John Loza reported on District 2 and handed out a presentation with additional information on District 2 (see attached). District 2 faces the challenge of a transient population. Most of the population in District 2 is made up of renters. There has been population loss due to tearing down of older apartment units, high vacancy in new complexes and city buy outs on land. Education level is lower. 52% of people lack a high school diploma. District 2 has a lot of older houses built in 1960. The goals for District 2 are to remain a working class Hispanic district. Lay a foundation for economic growth and education. Also, continue the process of encouraging residents through their neighborhood associations and crime watch groups. Commissioner Loza focused on various neighborhoods within District 2, including Arlington Park and Mt. Auburn.
- Commissioner Corky Sherman reported on District 3. Commissioner Sherman believes that District 3 has the most reasonable housing prices due to negative social status and that District 3 is the most diverse district in terms of middle class housing and share of the population. North Oak Cliff (which makes up a large portion of District 3) has at least 34 neighborhood associations under the Old Oak Cliff Conservation League, which hosts one of the oldest home tours in the city. Casa Modernas is a recent housing by Mountain View Community College which contains small modest homes on small lots. Capella Park, which is part of the Potter's House area, has incorporated many concepts that landscape architects prefer. Street turns that slow down traffic and single family homes on zero lot lines also town homes and condominiums.
- Commissioner Billy Ratcliff presentation on District 4 was rescheduled until next meeting.

- Commissioner Hollis Brashear reported on District 5 (see attached). District 5 is 5,000 people over the ideal population number. 35% of District 5 population has a high school diploma which is better than the citywide average, while another one-third of the district's population has a college degree. District 5 has 9.4 % unemployment. Among the challenges that District 5 faces is a need for more commercial businesses to generate jobs and also to increase employment opportunities for teenagers in District 5.
- Commissioner John Lozano reported on District 6 using a PowerPoint presentation (see attached). District 6 has transformed over the past 12 years due to new zoning that does not allow the opening of new sexually-oriented businesses and night clubs close to Love Field. The new DART Green Line has brought new opportunities to the area. A large Asian business community has formed around the Harry Hines area and is one of the top tax producing areas for the City of Dallas. The Asian population would like to see new housing built, especially in the form of apartments and town homes, as well as assisted living for the elderly. Some challenges are in the West and South areas of District 6 with the building of the Margaret Hunt Hill Bridge that is will open west Dallas to development from downtown The citizens of La Bajada Neighborhood are concerned that the development will force them to be bought out of their land. Resident groups are taking action to get zoning in the area to prevent being forced out of there homes. On the other hand, the development that comes with the bridge is good because it will bring much need economic revenue to West and South Dallas areas.
- Commissioner Stanley Mays District 7 presentation was rescheduled until the next meeting.
- Commissioner Mark Hord reported on District 11, copies were handed out to each commissioner (see attached). District 11 contains two school districts (Dallas and Richardson Independent School Districts). District 11 has significant commercial development including the Texas Instruments campus, Valley View Mall, Prestonwood Town Center, Dallas Galleria, Medical City, and the Park Central area office complexes. The population is close to the ideal district population however due to the growth in District 12 it will have to absorb about 9,000 residents and in turn shift some areas currently in the southern part of District 11 to Districts 10 and/or 13.
- Commissioner Elizabeth Jones presentation on District 13 was rescheduled until the next meeting
- Commissioner Brooks Love presentation on District 14 was rescheduled until the next meeting

5. Public Speakers

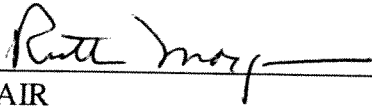
- No public speakers

6. Additional Questions/Final Remarks

- No final remarks

7. Adjournment

- Dr. Morgan, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 8:12 PM



CHAIR



COMMISSION ADMINISTRATOR

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