

Attachment 5

Single Board Member Redistricting Steering Public Hearing Thursday, September 27, 2012

Start Time: 6:00 p.m.

Location: Kathleen C. Wright Board Room
600 SE Third Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301

Michael Rajner, Chair
Marsha Ellison, Vice Chair

Agenda

1. Call to order

Chair Michael Rajner called the meeting to order at 6:09 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

Alan Ehrlich led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call

District 1 – Russell Chard
District 1 – Kristine Judeikis
District 2 – Barbara Jones
District 2 – Marilyn Soltanipour
District 3 – Heather Cunniff
District 3 – Paul Eichner
District 4 – Latha Krishnaiyer
District 5 – Roosevelt Walters
District 6 – Philip Busey
District 7 – Sheila Rose
County Wide, At-Large 8 - Alan Ehrlich
County Wide, At-Large 9 – Mary C. Fertig
Superintendent – Michael Rajner- Chair

The following committee members were absent from the meeting:

District 4 – Mandy Wells
District 5 – Roland Foulkes
District 6 – Barry Butin
District 7 – Ron Aronson
County Wide, At-Large 8 - Marsha Ellison – Vice Chair
County Wide, At-Large 9 – Michael De Grucci

4. Approval of September 27, 2012 Public Hearing Agenda

The agenda was adopted with revised maps 5 and 6 placed first for discussion under agenda item 8.

5. Approval of August 30, 2012 Draft Public Redistricting Meeting Minutes

The August 30th meeting minutes were approved as amended.

Attachment 5

6. Chair/Vice Chair's Report

During the Committee reports section of the September 5, 2012 Regular School Board Meeting, Chair Rajner shared with the School Board his request for Board Members to reappoint committee members who exceed the maximum number of absences so the committee can complete its work with the same individuals who heard from the public. Chair Rajner referenced the October 18, 2011 School Board redistricting resolution and timeline which states that committee member responsibilities will dissolve when the School Board selects a map which may be decided upon at the January 2013 School Board Workshop.

Chair Rajner shared that in accordance with the redistricting timeline, staff, or he will accompany staff (Sunshine law permitting) in gathering all School Board member input on redistricting guidelines in November following the swearing in of new School Board members.

Chair Rajner clarified that all the redistricting meetings are public hearings when public comments are sought, and should be called redistricting public hearings, rather than meetings.

6.1 Patricia McDougale Memo

Parliamentarian Patricia McDougale shared a memo in response to Chair Rajner's inquiry on how the committee may provide their recommendation to the School Board.

Discussion followed on how the School Board would be provided public comments. The committee confirmed all committee materials including public input would be available at any time as a public record.

Additional committee discussion followed on the committee's process for adopting a rule to vote on map recommendations.

7. Staff Follow Up

7.1 Redistricting Map Alternatives Legal Review by J. Paul Carland and Suzanne D'Agresta

Jill Young shared the memorandum provided to the Committee on September 25, 2012 by General Counsel and stated that the legal team has provided some general comments of inquiry for the committee to perform their own self-evaluation of the map alternatives.

Committee members felt the memorandum was vague and requested further clarification from legal counsel at this hearing; however, legal counsel had not intended to attend this hearing and was not available for comment beyond the memorandum provided. The committee requested staff ensure legal assistance was available for the October 11, 2012 hearing.

Further committee discussion ensued on the existing odd shape of Broward County, compactness, minority representation, and the size of single member districts. Chair Rajner reminded the committee that the process has allowed to committee to gather public input which is the rationale that reflects the data and geography for the committee's review as it moves forward.

Attachment 5

8. Presentation/discussion

8.1 Discussion of map alternatives 1-12 using Map Evaluation Comparison Form

Revised Map Alternative 5 was presented by Philip Busey. Mr. Busey stated he was able to align many school innovation zones to fit into one district without bad splits except for the Coconut Creek, Blanche Ely, Plantation, Piper, Miramar and Stranahan High School zones. Mr. Busey felt that if he could use Census blocks to draw his map, he could correct this. He stated that the odd shape of District 5 was the result of following the South Plantation Innovation Zone. Mr. Busey shared that the revised map alternative 5 total population and voting age population are nearly equal.

Community member Dr. Nathalie Lynch-Walsh commented on revised map alternative 5 stating that she used original map alternative 5 as a starting point to draw map alternative 7 which keeps all of the City of Plantation in District 6. She stated she would have liked to have been able to not split the Piper High School Innovation Zone by moving the District 5 line north.

Chair Rajner thanked Dr. Lynch-Walsh for her mapping efforts and requested members of the City of Plantation provide comments on the School District's redistricting Web site prior to the next hearing on October 11, 2012.

Community member Rose Waters stated she believed that just looking at the voting age population was not justifiable stating that people will change age and the data that was collected will change by the time of the next election.

Additional committee discussion followed on Philip Busey's revised map alternative 5 on whether balancing voting age population was important or not.

In committee member Ron Aronson's absence, Patrick Sipple presented the revisions to map alternative 6.

Chair Rajner opened up the floor for comments on the remaining non-revised map alternatives where Daniel Lewis spoke on map alternative 12.

Mr. Lewis stated he had worked with committee member Roosevelt Walters on map alternative 12 using Census blocks geography rather than voter tabulated districts. He stated that using block allowed him to create a map that reflected the demographics of the county and allowed for Black and Hispanic access districts.

Chair Rajner clarified that the map alternative submitted by Mr. Lewis would be considered as public comment on map alternative 12, but not as a new map alternative given the deadline for map submission had passed.

Having heard the input from Mr. Lewis regarding the making of maps utilizing Census blocks, committee members expressed their frustration that new factors or mapping techniques were

Attachment 5

being introduced so late in the process. The general consensus was that it was too late to restart the process or to allow new or revised maps to be submitted.

The committee considered the process of evaluating the twelve maps submitted and selecting the maps which best met the criteria to be met as outlined. Should the prepared form for evaluating the maps be used and submitted, or should each member submit his/her ranking of the top four maps. In the end, the committee adopted the following two motions:

Mary Fertig **motioned** to rank the 12 maps and vote up to four alternatives which will serve as models for the generation of a new map(s). The motion was adopted.

Heather introduced a **motion**, seconded by Latha, which after debate and amendment was adopted as follows: that all members use the form as a guide for ranking the twelve maps 1 being highest and 12 being lowest and get it to Jill by email on October 3rd.

9. Public Comment

Dr. Nathalie Lynch-Walsh spoke on the subject saying that the forms were quantifiable and transparent and should be utilized.

Rose Waters stated she believed all forms should be filled out for all 12 maps to be transparent.

9.1 New online comments received

Comments received from Redistricting Web site were provided to the committee members.

10. New Business

There was no new business discussed.

11. Unfinished Business

There was no unfinished business.

12. Committee Input on Future Agenda Items

No input was provided.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 pm.