

Legislative Apportionment Board

May 27, 2021

Unapproved Meeting Minutes

Remote Meeting

1. Call to Order

Members present: Tom Little, Mary Houghton, Rob Roper, Tom Koch, Ed Adrian (left at 10 am), Jeanne Albert (joined at 9:10), Jeremy Hansen (joined at 9:10)

Others present: John Adams, JP Isabelle, Michael Chernick, Bernie Benn, Rick Cawley, Linda Weiss, Jean MacDonald, Carl Demrow, Amerin Aborjaily, Xusana Davis, Brittney Wilson, Dick Kelley, Nick Kramer, Thomas Hughes, Dan Fiagas (Please excuse any name misspellings)

Chair Tom Little called meeting to order at 9:03 am and noted ACT 92 as authorization to meet remotely to satisfy the Open Meeting Law and asked that this Zoom meeting be recorded.

2. Review and Approval of Minutes of March 25 and April 29, 2021 Meetings

Rob Roper noted a correction to a typo to the April minutes to the percentage increase of the state population.

Rob Roper made a motion to approve both the March and April minutes. Tom Koch seconded. Passed unanimously.

3. Public Comment (per 1 V.S.A. sec. 312(h))

Linda Weiss from Corinth requested time to address the board. Members of the Corinth selectboard and other residents of Corinth were joined as well. They wished to address the current 6 town House district of Orange 1 and advocate to divide the district into two, one member districts. They noted:

District too large- 1 town (Williamstown) represents 40 percent of the district population

Representatives have come largely from Williamstown. There are not many community connections between the two towns. Corinth has been in the district for over 20 years and the relationships amongst the towns has not developed

4. Update on Recent Maptitude Training Sessions

2 Maptitude trainings were held for members of the board. A recording was sent around to members.

5. Racial Equity Task Force's January 2021 Report's Redistricting Recommendation and Discussion

- Xusana Davis, Task Force Chair; Brittany Wilson, Task Force Member

https://racialequity.vermont.gov/sites/reap/files/doc_library/RETF-Report-2-Final.pdf

Xusana and Brittney provided an overview of the pertinent parts of the report as well as introduced the Equity Impact Assessment tool being used in the state.

6. Updates, Comments on Prior Agenda Items

- Timing of U.S Census Results: August 15 and September 30 Dates-

John Adams had no updates from the US census.

- H. 338 Enacted into law on April 21, 2021, Adjusting Board Deadlines

Tom Little is working on a memo on what new deadlines will mean for local boards of civil authority and receiving feedback from them.

- Public Education and Outreach/- Board Member Reports on Their Public Interactions

Aside from the residents of Corinth, the board had not received any other comments.

- Comments on Draft of Second Op Ed Piece

Rob Roper drafted and sent around a new op ed piece. The board was asked to provide any last comments to Rob so that it could then be published.

7. Reports from Member Mapping Exercises to Date

Tom Little will share the 1 member district map that was developed for the last reapportionment

8. Updates: Legislative Counsel, Vermont Center for Geographic Information, Secretary of State's Office

Michael Chernick and Amerin Aborjaily did not have any updates from the legislature.

John Adams shared the following website with the board

<https://storymaps.arcgis.com/stories/aa9cddc29ee54d499dd312b307a45588> on Differential Privacy & the 2020 Census in Vermont. It highlights the potential impacts of the differential privacy algorithm proposed to be used for the 2020 Census using "demonstration data" released by the Census that applies the latest (4/28/21) algorithm to 2010 Census data.

9. Other Business

No other business came before the board.

10. Adjourn

Tom Little adjourned the meeting at 10:39 am