



OFFICE OF THE CHAMPAIGN COUNTY EXECUTIVE

1776 East Washington Street, Urbana, Illinois 61802-4581

Darlene A. Kloepfel, County Executive

Champaign County Redistricting Advisory Group MEETING NOTES FOR THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2021, 6:30PM

Members Present via Zoom: Emily Bluhm, Leanne Brehob-Riley, Trisha Crowley, Nicole Darby, Brian Gaines, Mariel Huasanga, Chuck Lansford, Gabe Lewis and Lin Warfel.

County Staff via Zoom: Darlene Kloepfel (County Executive) and Mary Ward (Administrative Assistant)

Others Present: None

County Executive Kloepfel started the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

I. Welcome

Ms. Kloepfel welcomed everyone to the meeting. She announced that she has drafted the ordinances for the County Board, one for the plan and one for the map, based on language used in 2011. If the State's Attorney has finished their review, she hopes to present to the board next week for them to review.

She received a message regarding the public hearings regarding state redistricting. The hearings will be via Zoom, and the one for the Champaign County area on Thursday. She will send out information on Wednesday morning in case anyone is interested in participating.

II. Discussion of 2011 District Map(s)

Nicole is our map drawer. To get us started, she has taken the map adopted in 2011 and updated it by moving some boundary lines to equalize current population estimates and maintain as many municipal/township boundaries as possible. Current boundaries are in black and the adjustments she made were in color. Most of the adjustments were done around the Champaign-Urbana area. No other considerations were used for adjustments.

Nicole calculated the standards that were discussed in the last meeting on the updated map. She shared the spreadsheet that was developed and explained the various components on the spreadsheet including absolute deviation, deviation percentage, Polsby-Popper Score, Roeck and Ehrenburg scores, dispersion of population, number of townships split and number of municipalities split. She also discussed the Racial Diversity Index (Herindahl Index) and Compactness.

Discussion was held on racial diversity and where various races are concentrated and making them communities of interest. Mr. Gaines noted that it is easier to make common interests heard if they are in the same district.

Ms. Kloepfel has started reaching out to ask people to draw communities of interest, not only by race, but by other criteria. It could be things like keeping Mahomet and Seymour together,

areas around a certain feature like Boneyard Creek, campus housing, etc. We need starting points so Nicole can start drawing maps, with the idea that the group will evaluate and direct changes to move boundaries toward the direction we feel gets closer to our standards. On Thursday, we'll look at a few maps and start to give Nicole more direction for making changes.

Mr. Lansford asked about the separation of Champaign and Urbana and making them their own communities of interest. Ms. Kloeppel noted that one of the criteria is keeping municipalities together.

Leanne wanted to remind everyone that the data we are using are 2020 Census estimates from ESRI. We are using the best info we have but we are working with estimates. The population data on the map where the public draws is based on 2018 American Community Survey data. When the publicly drawn maps are imported into our ESRI software, population estimates will not line up 100% with either the American Community Survey data nor the final Census data, but it should be close.

The meeting was concluded as 7:35 p.m.