

SEATTLE REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, May 31st, 2022

12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

Zoom Meeting

Approved on June 7th, 2022

Commissioners Present: Commission Chair Eliseo EJ Juárez, Patience Malaba, Greg Nickels, Rory O’Sullivan, Neelima Shah

Commissioners Absent: N/A

Commission Staff and Guests: Logan Drummond: Department of Neighborhoods, Elsa Batres-Boni: Department of Neighborhoods, Ariel Schneier: Assistant City Attorney, Dennis Higgins: Districting GIS Consultant, Mary Ullrich: Districting GIS Consultant

(Transcriber’s Note: Seattle Redistricting Commission meeting minutes are not an exact transcript and represent key points and the basis of discussion. The recording of the meeting is available upon request.)

Meeting Minutes:

I. Call to Order

- This Seattle Redistricting Commission meeting was held virtually through Zoom. This meeting was open to the public and was advertised through appropriate channels. The meeting was called to order at 12:01 PM once the Redistricting Commissioners had quorum.

II. Welcome & Housekeeping

- Reading of the agenda, welcome and land acknowledgement

III. Agenda Review and approval

- There were no further questions or concerns from the Commissioners on today’s agenda for the 5.31.22 meeting.

IV. Minutes approval

- Approval for the 5.24.2022 meeting minutes was motioned for a vote by Commissioner Nickels and seconded by Commissioner Malaba. The minutes for the 5.24.2022 meetings were then passed by the Commission unanimously with five yes votes.

V. Received Public Comment Acknowledgement

- Commissioners acknowledged that they have reviewed the latest submitted public comments.

VI. Public Comment

- No one from community was present for this first agenda item for public comment. The commission noted that there will always be time made for public comment at the beginning and end of these meetings.

VII. Conflict of Interest Disclosure

- No conflicts of interest were disclosed at this time by Redistricting Commissioners.
- Department of Neighborhoods staff Elsa Batres-Boni noted that staff from Theresa Mosqueda's office spoke with her to get an overview of the redistricting process and what kind of involvement they can have in the process. Elsa informed staff that they can participate by listening and watching meetings, and by encouraging folks in the city to participate in the process.

VIII. Public Forum Review

- Commissioners noted that they would like to add a component to the meetings that allows for the public to use a large map or to have a live editing document from the Districting GIS Consultants for folks who want to express their preferences in a visual format.

IX. Public Forum Prep

- Commissioners discussed potentially increasing the amount of time that community members can provide public comment as needed at the forums in the spirit of cooperation, specifically for individuals who are using interpretation or may be speaking through maps.

X. Open District lines options conversation

- Commissioners discussed the different map options and challenges they have encounter while working with the GIS consulting team on the interactive mapping too. Commissioner O'Sullivan shared an option map that included public comments submitted by Public Forum District 2 attendees, keeping Beacon Hill and the Chinatown International District and Little Saigon in District 2. Commissioner O'Sullivan noted that there was a challenge in adding Yesler Terrace to District 2, as the number of people in that district neared its limit and ultimately the only way to include Yesler Terrace would be to cut into the Mount Baker area.
- This agenda item will be added to all future agendas, so that the commission can workshop where to put district lines and process feedback from the public forums in real-time to narrow down options.

XI. Next meetings

- The next regular meeting will be on June 7th, 2022, from 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM
- The next meeting of the commission will be at the district 3 Public Forum at Garfield Community Center at 2323 E Cherry St, Seattle, WA 98122 on June 2nd, 2022, from 5:30PM – 7:30PM. Commissioner Neelima Shah will be giving this community the overview presentation on redistricting prior to the public comment period.

XII. Public Comment – Continued

- **Joseph Lachman** - "hello again commissioners this is Joseph Lachman with Asian counseling referral service and Redistricting Justice for Seattle, wanted to say thank you for being thoughtful and considerate about the public testimony and making sure that folks have equitable opportunity to speak up especially with interpretation and other considerations going on. I want to mention that I would be happy to take the discussion going on about the placement of Yesler Terrace and other issues related to district 2 district 3 district to the community, to make sure that the boundaries are in compliance while also taking community feedback into consideration , I will speak with members of our coalition and make sure that we just have clarity about our own input on the placement of Yesler Terrace and we'll make sure that we can convey this to you more clearly just so that so again I wanted to say thank you for

being so thoughtful in the process and making sure that you're taking the public feedback into account.”

XIII. Adjourn

- Commission Chair Eliseo EJ Juárez asked if there was a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Shah motioned for adjournment, and Commissioner O'Sullivan seconded. The motion for adjournment was approved unanimously with five yes votes.
- The next Seattle Redistricting Commission meeting will be on Tuesday June 7th, 2022, from 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM.
- Redistricting Commissioners - Send any comments or recommended changes for 5.31.22 minutes before the next meeting.
- Questions and comments, please send them to Elsa.Batres-Boni@seattle.gov