

SEATTLE REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

MINUTES

Tuesday, November 30th, 2021

11:45 AM – 1:15 PM

Zoom Meeting

Approved on December 7th, 2021

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

Commissioners Absent: N/A

Commission Staff: Elsa Batres-Boni: Department of Neighborhoods, Logan Drummond: Department of Neighborhoods

Guests: Ariel Schneier: City Attorney’s Office, Gary Smith: City Attorney’s Office, Diana Canzoneri: OPCD, Jennifer Pettyjohn: OPCD, Jenn Brandon: Department of Neighborhoods, Harvey Arnone: City of Seattle IT – GIS Manager

(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 11:47am once the Redistricting Commissioners were all present.

II. Welcome & Housekeeping

- Reading of the agenda, welcome

III. Agenda Review

- There were no further questions or concerns from the Commissioners and the agenda was then motioned for approval by Commissioner Nickels and seconded by Commissioner Malaba. The agenda was then unanimously passed by the Commission with five yes votes.

IV. Minutes and Bylaws Approval

- Meeting Minutes Approval
 - Approval for the 11.09.21 meeting minutes was motioned for a vote by Commissioner Malaba and seconded by Commissioner Shah. The 11.09.21 meeting minutes were approved unanimously by the Commission with five yes votes.

- Approval for the 11.16.21 meeting minutes was motioned for a vote by Commissioner Nickels and seconded by Commissioner Shah. The 11.16.21 meeting minutes were approved unanimously by the Commission with five yes votes.
- Bylaws Approval
 - Approval for the bylaws and procedures with the adopted edits from the last meeting on Commission Chair role circulation and King County elections was motioned for a vote by Commissioner Malaba and seconded by Commissioner Juarez. The Seattle Redistricting Commission bylaws and procedures were approved unanimously by the Commission with five yes votes.

V. Public Comment

- No one from the public was present for public comment or registered via our website beforehand.

VI. Discussion

- Redistricting Commissioner agreements
 - Discussion between Commissioners on the Redistricting Commissioner agreements. The Redistricting Commission agreed that the agreement should be altered by City Staff in order to create a shorter, more concise document that will be readable by the general public. City Staff will take out charter language and simplify the Redistricting Commissioner agreements.
 - City of Seattle City Attorney's office staff clarified that DON does not have the authority to remove a commissioner, but that the agreement would only enable them to remove the per diem offered to Commissioners if they are found to not be in accordance with the agreement. The only authority that has the power to remove a Commissioner, is the authority that appointed them in the first place (I.e., the Mayor, City Council, and Redistricting Council for the fifth Commissioner).
 - City Staff will update the timeline to remove the November 30th deadline from the language, as this will be November 30th, 2022, towards the end of the Seattle Redistricting process, and continue operating with the two-month deadline from Commissioner Malaba's appointment as the fifth Commissioner.

VII. Decision-Making Points:

- **District Master RFP applicant considerations and next steps**
 - The Seattle Redistricting Commissioners discussed qualifications of all candidates, deciding that they will select the District Master from these three selected applications. The Commission noted that King County Redistricting Commission utilized King County GIS Center for their work as well and the advantage of having access to the data used for King County's process. Commissioners were also impressed with Smash the Box's application, noting that it might be worth exploring hiring them as a consultant to assist with the outreach portion of the work due to their work with the WIN | WIN network.
 - The Redistricting Commission agreed to interview all three District Master candidates: King County GIS Center, BERK Consulting, and Smash the Box. There will be two interviews during the 12.07.21 meeting as well as a time for discussion of qualifications. There will be a final interview during the 12.14.21 meeting as well as a time for final discussion of qualifications for all applicants. The Redistricting Commission will make their final decisions regarding the District Master selection at the 12.14.21 meeting.

- o Commissioner Shah brought up that in the third question bullet, that it would be beneficial to add a sentence on how they would present the different potential implications of each map that they create.
- **Seattle Channel**
 - o City Staff EBB let Commissioners know that the Seattle Channel will be in contact to schedule an interview with two Commissioners regarding the Redistricting Commission's work. Redistricting Commissioners agreed to full participation in this interview.
- **Next meetings**
 - o Next meeting will be on 12.07.21 from 11:30am – 1:30pm
 - Will hold interviews for two District Master candidates, Redistricting Commissioners will discuss qualifications and will also vote on approval for the 11.30.21 Meeting Minutes.
 - o There will be a final interview at the 12.14.21 meeting, as well as a final discussion of qualifications and final selection of the District Master.
 - o In an upcoming meeting, either the 12.14.21 meeting or the meeting after, there is a plan to have an ethics training and a presentation about financial disclosure in order to wrap up the Redistricting Commissioner agreements document process, as well as a presentation from a King County Redistricting Commissioner on lessons learned and insights into the process.

VIII. Adjourn

- The Seattle Redistricting Chair O'Sullivan asked if there was a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Malaba motioned for adjournment, and Commissioner Nickels seconded. The motion for adjournment was approved unanimously by the Redistricting Commissioners.
- The next Seattle Redistricting Commission meeting will be on Tuesday December 7th, from 11:30am-1:30pm.
 - o Agenda for this meeting will be sent out by the end of this week
- Redistricting Commissioners - Send any comments or recommended changes for minutes and Redistricting Commissioner agreements before the next meeting
- Commission staff will send out calendar invites for upcoming meetings
- Questions and comments, please send them to Elsa.Batres-Boni@seattle.gov