

## SEATTLE REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

### MINUTES

Tuesday, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021

11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Zoom Meeting

Approved on December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021

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

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**Commissioners Absent:** N/A

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

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**Guests:** Smash the Box: District Master candidate, BERK Consulting Firm: District Master candidate, Ariel Schneier: City Attorney’s Office, Gary Smith: City Attorney’s Office, 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 Shah following the addition of an item for Public Comment after agenda approval. The agenda was then passed by the Commission with four yes votes and one abstention due to Commissioner Malaba not being present for this vote.

##### **IV. Public Comment**

- Zoe from Portage Bay gave a public comment, stating that she would like to see part of Portage Bay rolled into District 4 rather than District 5 due to having more in common with District 4, demographically.

##### **V. Minutes Approval**

- Approval for the 11.30.21 meeting minutes was motioned for a vote by Commissioner Nickels and seconded by Commissioner Juarez. The 11.30.21 meeting minutes were then passed by the Commission with four yes votes and one abstention due to Commissioner Malaba not being present at the time of this vote.

#### VI. [District Master Candidate Interviews](#)

- **Copy of District Master Interview Questions asked by Redistricting Commissioners:**
  - **Presentation**
  - **Commissioner Juarez:** Tell us more about experience you have had navigating high-profile and controversial/sensitive/contentious community processes.
  - **Commissioner Malaba:** Please expand on your approach to integrating principles of racial equity and representation; Can you share your successful experience integrating equity analysis into prior projects and how principles of racial equity and representation will be integrated for this project.
  - **Commissioner Nickels:** Tell us about your communication strategy for presenting drafts and proposed plans to commissioners, public and other technical professionals during the project.
  - **Commissioner Shah:** (If not presented yet) Please elaborate on how your firm will present potential map implications to the commission.
  - **Commissioner O’Sullivan:** Questions from Applicant and Answers from Commissioners
  - Staff shares next steps
- **Interview 1: Yes Segura – Smash the Box**
  - Yes Segura from Smash the Box gave a presentation, and then Seattle Redistricting Commissioners asked pre-assigned questions and any follow-up questions, took questions from the candidate, and then shared next steps, including the information that the Commission will select the District Master and inform candidates of the result on December 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - [13:51 - 46:09 minutes into the meeting recording](#)
  - [Presentation link for Smash the Box, here](#)
- **Seattle Redistricting Commission – Break**
- **Interview 2: Michelle Ellsworth, Kevin Gifford, Kevin Ramsey, and Josh Linden - BERK Consulting**
  - Kevin Gifford, Kevin Ramsey, and Josh Linden from BERK Consulting gave a presentation, and then Seattle Redistricting Commissioners asked pre-assigned questions and any follow-up questions, took questions from the candidate, and then shared next steps, including the information that the Commission will select the District Master and inform candidates of the result on December 14<sup>th</sup>.
  - [50:31 - 01:22:05 minutes into the meeting recording](#)

#### VII. **Ethics Training**

- Marc Mayo from the Ethics and Elections Commission gave a presentation overview on ethics code for commissions for Redistricting Commissioners. Financial disclosure, conflicts of interest, appearance of conflicts, gifts, and misuse of official positions for private benefit.
- Marc Mayo will send Commissioners a copy of the items that will be on the financial disclosure forms for 2022 that Commissioners will need to submit.

#### VIII. **Redistricting Commissioner’s Memorandum of Agreements**

- Discussion between Commissioners on the Redistricting Commissioner Memorandum of agreements (MOA). City of Seattle staff will add the full appendices for the MOA and will send that out for signature prior to the next meeting. Commissioner Juarez motioned to adopt the MOA as amended, seconded by Commissioner Shah. The motion passed with four yes votes, with one abstention due to Commissioner Malaba needing to leave the meeting at 1:00pm for a prior engagement.
- **Next meetings**
  - o Next meeting will be on 12.14.21 from 11:30am – 1:30pm
    - Will hold the final interview for District Master and hold a discussion and the announce their final decision through a vote. Other items on the agenda will include a presentation from the King County Redistricting Committee, and a vote on approval for the 12.07.21 Meeting Minutes.

#### **IX. Adjourn**

- The Seattle Redistricting Chair O’Sullivan asked if there was a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Nickels motioned for adjournment, and Commissioner Shah seconded. The motion for adjournment was approved by four Redistricting Commissioners with one abstention due to Commissioner Malaba needed to leave the meeting at 1:00pm for a prior engagement.
- The next Seattle Redistricting Commission meeting will be on Tuesday December 14<sup>th</sup>, from 12:00pm-1:30pm.
- Redistricting Commissioners - Send any comments or recommended changes for minutes or the tentative schedule for 2022 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](mailto:Elsa.Batres-Boni@seattle.gov)