

FIFTH DECENNIAL
REDISTRICTING COMMISSION
FINAL REPORT

SEPTEMBER 6, 2011

Members

Jana H. Carey, Chairman
Linda M. Schuett, Vice Chair
Joshua C. Greene
Dirk D. Haire
Jason E. Rheinsein

Introduction

Section 1203 of the Anne Arundel County Charter requires the Anne Arundel County Council to appoint a Charter Revision Commission (CRC) at or before its annual legislative session following the Decennial Census for the purposes of making a comprehensive study of County government and recommending changes to the Charter, including revision of the County Council Districts.

Under Section 207 of the Charter, the County Council is empowered to change the County Council Districts by ordinance passed by an affirmative vote of 5 members. A change in the number of Councilmanic Districts must be approved by the voters as a Charter Amendment.

Resolution Number 28-11 of the Anne Arundel County Council, passed on April 19, 2011, appointed the following individuals to serve as the Charter Revision Commission: Jana H. Carey, Linda M. Schuett, Joshua C. Greene, Dirk D. Haire and Jason E. Rheinstein. The Resolution directs the CRC to issue interim reports of its findings and preliminary conclusions at 60-day intervals. In arriving at its conclusions, the CRC is required to solicit the comments of the County Administration, the County Council members and the citizens of Anne Arundel County.

This report on redistricting represents the collective efforts of the CRC members, the expert mapping and demographic assistance of the Office of Planning and Zoning and comments from the public hearings held on June 27, 2011 and July 25, 2011. The Commission has met nine times and received presentations from Anne Arundel County staff to provide historical background and legal standards for redistricting. In addition, Anne Arundel County Planning and Zoning staff implemented advanced redistricting software to incorporate the latest Geographic Information Systems ("GIS") information into map proposals.

Considerations in Redistricting

The averaging of countywide population to achieve an ideal District population number for each District is required under the Constitutional standard of "One-Person, One-Vote." The average or "ideal" population for each District should reflect a deviation of no more than plus or minus 5% among the Districts; however, a constitutional benchmark of a 10% deviation in population has been established at the federal and state levels. The Court of Appeals has held that the "substantially equal" standard required by the Maryland Constitution confers flexibility in redistricting to the constitutional standard of 10% but also recognized that the Maryland Constitutional Convention Committee originally contemplated deviations as high as 15%. Higher deviations, even as high as 16.4%, have been held constitutional in federal redistricting to preserve political boundaries. Redistricting also requires adherence to the principles that voting Districts should be compact, and be comprised of contiguous territory, and that due consideration should be given to the political and geographic boundaries within the County. The courts have also allowed attention to be paid to a desire to preserve communities of interest, so long as all the other Constitutional requirements are met.

Redistricting Anne Arundel County in 2011

The data for Anne Arundel County provided by the United States Census Bureau in the following chart shows the current population for the County as well as the percentage of deviation from the new “ideal” population number of 76,335 per Council District. The ideal population in 2000 was 69,951 persons per District. The 2010 population number is adjusted to exclude the non-resident prison inmate population under Chapter 67 of the Laws of Maryland, 2010, also known as the “No Representation without Population Act.” The required adjustment for Anne Arundel County resulted in District 1 decreasing in population by approximately 3,900 persons. No other District experienced a significant change in population as a result of the law.

Census 2010 Population By District (Adjusted) *			
District	Population	Deviation	% Deviation
1	68987	-7348	-9.63%
2	76716	381	0.50%
3	74525	-1810	-2.37%
4	84679	8344	10.93%
5	75217	-1118	-1.46%
6	75857	-478	-0.63%
7	78366	2031	2.66%
Total Population			534,347
Ideal District Population			76,335

Source: United States Census Bureau

Table prepared by: Margaret Kaii Ziegler, Planning Administrator/Demographer
Anne Arundel County Office of Planning and Zoning

The above chart indicates the need to redistrict to achieve an ideal population in Districts 1 and 4, both of which have experienced significant changes in the population over the last decade. Both District 1 and District 4 exceed the 5% allowable deviation.

In analyzing potential changes to the County Council Districts, the CRC has considered numerous alternatives ranging from a simple adjustment between Districts 1 and 4 to more substantial redrawing of the County District lines. The Commission believes that, at a minimum, any plan must include a balancing to bring Districts 1 and 4 within the appropriate deviation from the ideal population. Further efforts to redraw County Council Districts have been made to address issues raised at the public hearings, at which several speakers requested changes to create a rural District 7, which would require significant changes to all but a few Districts in order to ensure that District populations stay within the proper deviation while adhering to political and municipal boundaries.

In addition to the maps, the Commission was presented with the population numbers as well as the racial breakdown of the proposed Districts.

The first public hearing on redistricting was held on June 27, 2011. The Commission asked for general comments on redistricting. The individuals who testified expressed an interest in creating a more rural District 7 and, more specifically, the removal of Crofton from the District. Other individuals emphasized the need for Districts to follow communities of interest and avoid political considerations.

The second public hearing was held on July 25, 2011. Copies of the maps attached in Appendix A to the interim report were available for viewing by the public. The interim report was available for distribution and had been posted on the County website prior to the hearing. Several individuals testified in reference to the need for a South County District; however, two individuals spoke in opposition to moving Crofton to District 4.

The Commission met three times after the public hearing in July to discuss its recommendations of a map as well as the testimony at the hearings. The Commission narrowed the focus of its discussion to the submission of two maps to represent the immediate issue of a population rebalancing as well as the community of interest issues presented at the public hearings. As a result of its deliberations, the Commission is providing two recommendations to the Council, without comment as to their relative desirability. The first recommendation, the Simple Adjustment Map, provides a minimalist approach to redistricting by moving the line between the two adjacent Districts whose populations are outside of the 5% deviation rule (i.e., Districts 1 and 4) only enough to bring both Districts into compliance with the rule. The second recommendation, Proposed Alternative 5, was drawn with the intent to balance population and create a more rural District 7 as requested by some speakers at the public hearings. The Commission decided that the decision as to which of these maps should be adopted is a decision best left to the County Council.

DESCRIPTION OF THE SIMPLE ADJUSTMENT PLAN

The Simple Adjustment plan recommended to the Council is intended to make the smallest change possible to the Councilmanic District Map while addressing the population deviation imbalances of District 1, where the population falls below the average District population by more than 5%, and District 4, where the population exceeds the average by more than 5%. The boundary change moves from District 4 to District 1 a triangular parcel of land that is bounded to the North by Reece Road, to the West by Town Center Boulevard, to the South by Quiet Spring Road and a stream and to the East by railroad tracks. In addition, a small area in Laurel along Russett Green and Mississippi Road is moved from District 4 to District 1. No other Council District lines are changed.

The Simple Adjustment Map, detailed descriptions of the Boundary Lines of the Districts and a population graph are included under Appendix A.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE FIVE

In Proposed Alternative Five, most Districts undergo a boundary shift in order to create a balanced population in all Districts while creating a more rural District 7.

District 1

District 1 remains in the northernmost portion of the County. Changes to the District include the addition of the Subdivision of Argonne Hills and Fort Meade housing as well as the triangular parcel of land bounded to the North by Reece Road, to the West by Town Center Boulevard, to the South by Quiet Spring Road and a stream and to the East by railroad tracks.

District 2

District 2 remains the North Central District in the County, including parts of Glen Burnie, Millersville and Severn. A portion of the Pasadena/Glen Burnie area to the East of Ritchie Highway is moved to District 3 while a triangular piece of land bounded to the South by Route 32 and to the East by Route 97 is moved into District 2 from District 4.

District 3

District 3 remains largely intact as the Northeastern District in the County. Changes include the addition of land on the Eastern side of Ritchie Highway and the removal of a portion of the Southwest corner of the District that is currently bounded by Ritchie Highway to the West, Pasadena Road to the North and the Magothy River to the East.

District 4

District 4 is the District that is changed the most under this alternative. On the Northern boundary of the District, land is moved into Districts 1 and 2 as previously described. The Easternmost portion of District 4 -- the area East of Generals Highway, including areas of Crownsville and Millersville -- is moved into District 6 in an attempt to group the waterfront areas of the Severn River into two Districts rather than three. Southeast portions of District 4, including rural areas of Crownsville and Gambrills, are moved to District 7. The most significant change is the addition of the Crofton Triangle and the area North of the triangle between Davidsonville Road and Johns Hopkins Road on the North and Underwood Road to the East.

District 5

District 5 retains the same boundaries except for the addition of a small piece of Pasadena/Severna Park South of Pasadena Road.

District 6

District 6 is redrawn to exclude areas of Crownsville and the peninsula between the South River and Broad Creek, which includes Bon Haven and Heritage Harbor, and to include the Northern area of Crownsville East of Generals Highway.

District 7

District 7 is changed to a predominantly rural District with the removal of Crofton and its environs from District 7 to District 4. To balance the population shift created by the removal of Crofton, areas to the North in Gambrills and Crownsville, areas to the East in Crownsville and the peninsulas containing Heritage Harbor and Bon Haven are added.

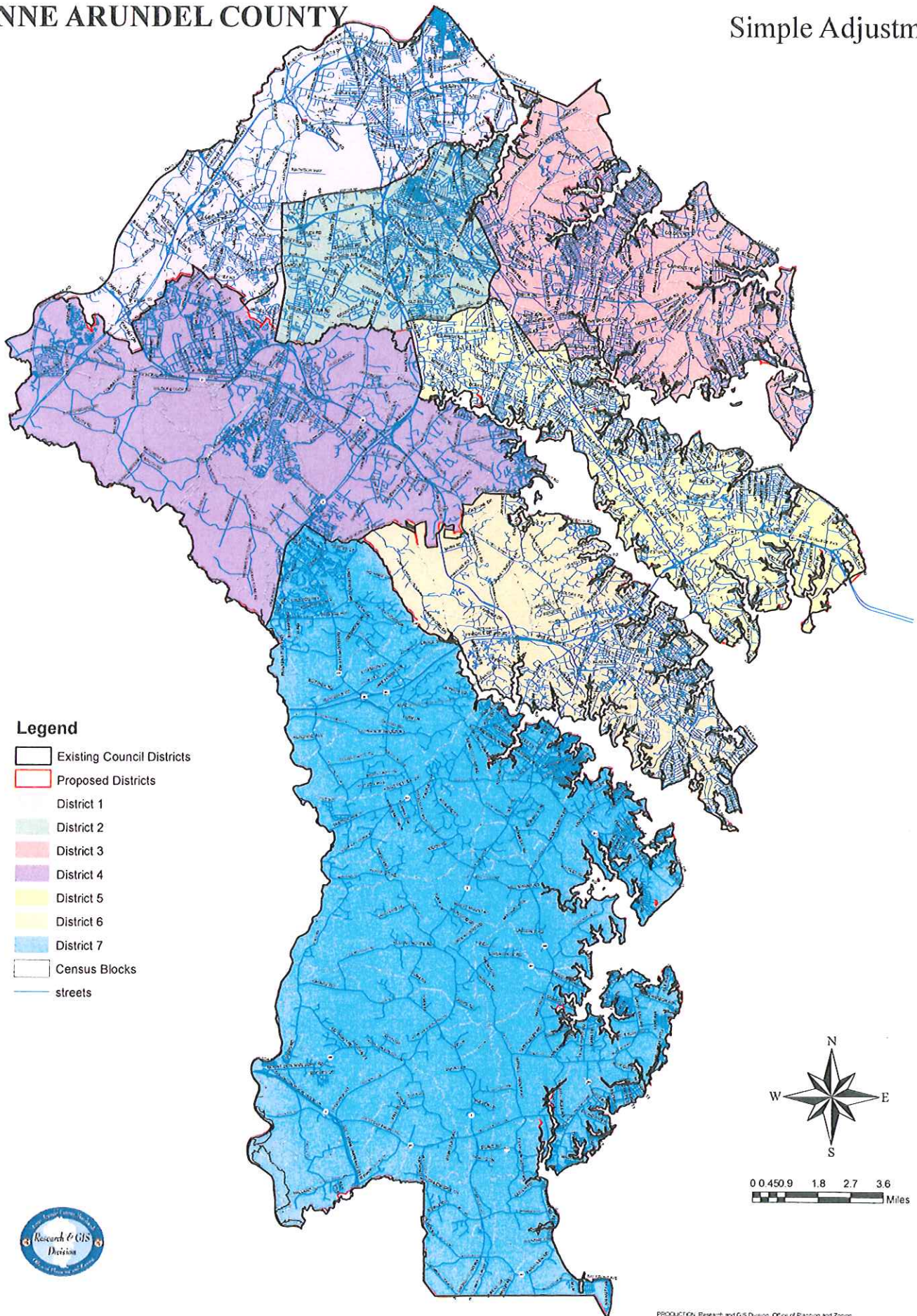
The Proposed Alternative 5 Map, detailed descriptions of the Boundary Lines of the Districts and a population graph are included under Appendix B.

APPENDIX A












**Simple Adjustment Map
Boundary Descriptions
Population Graph**

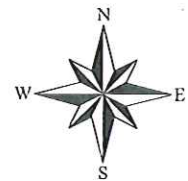
ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Simple Adjustment



Legend

-  Existing Council Districts
-  Proposed Districts
-  District 1
-  District 2
-  District 3
-  District 4
-  District 5
-  District 6
-  District 7
-  Census Blocks
-  streets



0 0.450.9 1.8 2.7 3.6
Miles

SIMPLE ADJUSTMENT ALTERNATIVE DISTRICT DESCRIPTIONS

District 1

Starting at 76°35'18.314"W 39°11'12.953"N on the north shore of Curtis Creek,
Southwest along Furnace Creek and Sawmill Creek to 8TH AVE NW & DORSEY RD & BALTIMORE ANNAPOLIS BLVD,
West along DORSEY RD to DORSEY RD & OLD DORSEY RD,
South along railroad tracks to the Severn Run Tributary,
Northwest along Severn Run Tributary to QUIET SPRING DR,
Southwest along QUIET SPRING DR to BRAGG BLVD & QUIET SPRING DR, North to CANNON RIDGE DR & CANNON BALL WAY,
Northwest to TOWN CENTER BLVD,
North on TOWN CENTER BLVD to REECE RD & JACOBS RD W,
Northwest following the Fort George G. Meade Military Reservation boundary to CITADEL DR & DISNEY RD,
West along DISNEY RD to 26TH ST & ANNAPOLIS RD & DISNEY RD, Northwest along ANNAPOLIS RD to Midway Branch Tributary,
Southwest along the Fort George G. Meade Military Reservation boundary to CANINE RD,
Southwest along CANINE RD to CANINE RD & ENGSTROM RD,
Southwest to SAVAGE RD & RT32 & EB RT 32 FROM WB CANINE RD,
North along the Little Patuxent River,
Northwest to MISSISSIPPI RD & AMAZON LN,
South along MISSISSIPPI RD to MISSISSIPPI RD & THAMES LN,
Southeast to SHANNONS ALY & PURPLE LEAF LN,
West along PURPLE LEAF LN to MISSISSIPPI RD & PURPLE LEAF LN,
South along MISSISSIPPI RD to GANGES RD & MISSISSIPPI RD
Southeast along GANGES RD to GANGES RD & PENNINGTON DR
West along PENNINGTON DR to FARAWAY HILLS DR & ORION CIR & PENNINGTON DR,
Southwest along FARAWAY HILLS DR to LYNDHURST ST & FARAWAY HILLS DR & RUSSETT GRN E,
Northwest along RUSSETT GRN E to Little Patuxent River,
Following Little Patuxent River to Anne Arundel County Boundary with Howard and Baltimore Counties,
North east to County Boundary with City of Baltimore,
Southeast to the Patapsco River,
South to Curtis Bay,
West to starting point.

District 2

Starting at 76°34'48.677"W 39°11'7.24"N on the north shore of Marley Creek,
Southwest to FURNACE BRANCH RD RT 270 & BALTIMORE ANNAPOLIS BLVD,
Southeast on BALTIMORE ANNAPOLIS BLVD to BALTIMORE ANNAPOLIS BLVD & Rt 177 MOUNTAIN ROAD,
South along JUMPERS HOLE RD to JUMPERS HOLE RD & OBRECHT RD, Southwest along OBRECHT RD to BRIGHTVIEW DR & MARTIN DR & OBRECHT RD,
West along BRIGHTVIEW DR to I97,
South on I97 to 1,885 Feet South of BRIGHTVIEW DR,
West 2,300 feet to the Severn Run Tributary ,

West along the centerline of the Severn Run Tributary to OLD MILL RD & BURNS CROSSING RD,
West along OLD MILL RD & NB RT 170 TO Railroad tracks,
North along Railroad tracks to DORSEY RD & OLD DORSEY RD,
East along DORSEY RD to 8TH AVE NW & DORSEY RD & BALTIMORE ANNAPOLIS BLVD,
East along Sawmill Creek to south shore of Furnace Creek,
South along Furnace Creek to the north shore of Marley Creek starting point.

District 3

Starting at 76°34'48.677"W 39°11'7.24"N
Following the western shoreline of the Patapsco River South,
Including all tributaries and Gibson Island, Dobbins Island and Little Dobbins Island
West along the northern shore of the Magothy River,
Northwest to Old Man Creek,
East to along Old Man Creek to Rt 648 BALTIMORE ANNAPOLIS BLVD.,
North to OLD EARLEIGH HEIGHTS RD & Rt 648 BALTIMORE ANNAPOLIS BLVD.,
West to MAGOTHY BRIDGE RD and OLD EARLEIGH HEIGHTS RD.,
West to MAGOTHY BRIDGE RD and Rt 2 GOVERNOR RITCHIE HWY,
Northwest along GOVERNOR RITCHIE HWY to Magothy Branch Tributary & RITCHIE HWY,
Southwest along Magothy Branch Tributary to JUMPERS HOLE RD,
North along JUMPERS HOLE RD to JUMPERS HOLE RD & Rt 177 MOUNTAIN RD,
Northwest along BALTIMORE ANNAPOLIS BLVD to BALTIMORE ANNAPOLIS BLVD & Marley Creek,
Northeast along South shore of Marley Creek to the County and Baltimore City Boundary,
Following the County Boundary with Baltimore City to the east to the Patapsco River, South along the western shoreline of the Patapsco River to the starting point.

District 4

Starting at 76°44'8.831"W 39°7'41.357"N 26TH ST & ANNAPOLIS RD & DISNEY RD,
East along DISNEY RD to CITADEL DR & DISNEY RD,
Southeast following Fort George G. Meade Military Reservation to REECE RD & JACOBS RD W,
Southeast along Fort George G. Meade Military Reservation Boundary to TOWN CENTER BLVD.,
South along TOWN CENTER BLVD. 780 feet,
West/(East)along property boundary to CANNON RIDGE DR & CANNON BALL WAY,
South to BRAGG BLVD & QUIET SPRING DR,
Northeast along BRAGG BLVD to Severn Run Tributary,
Following the Severn Run Tributary to the southeast to the Railroad Track,
South along Railroad Track to JACKSON GROVE RD,
East along JACKSON GROVE RD TO OLD MILL RD,
EAST ALONG OLD MILL RD to BURNS CROSSING RD & OLD MILL RD,
South on BURNS CROSSING RD to Severn Run Tributary,
Northeast along the centerline of the Severn Run Tributary,
East from the Severn Run Tributary to 1,885 Feet South of Brightview Dr and I97, South along I97 to I97 & Severn Run Tributary
Southeast along Severn Run Tributary to The South bank of the Severn River,
West along Little Round Bay Tributary to HERALD HARBOR RD & RIVER RD,
West along HERALD HARBOR RD to HERALD HARBOR RD & GENERALS HWY,

South along GENERALS HWY to FAIRFIELD LOOP RD & GENERALS HWY, South along FAIRFIELD LOOP RD to COMMUNITY PL & FAIRFIELD LOOP RD, West along North boundary of Crownsville Hospital property (owned by the State of Maryland), Crossing I97 and following northern boundary of the Maryland Environmental Trust Property to Bacon Ridge Branch Tributary, Northeast following Bacon Ridge Branch Tributary to SAINT STEPHENS CHURCH RD & SAINT STEPHENS WOODS DR, Northwest along SAINT STEPHENS CHURCH RD to SAINT STEPHENS CHURCH RD & JOHNS HOPKINS RD, West along JOHNS HOPKINS RD to RIEDEL RD & JOHNS HOPKINS RD, North along RIEDEL RD to JOHNS HOPKINS RD & RIEDEL RD, Northwest along JOHNS HOPKINS RD to CRAIN HWY & JOHNS HOPKINS RD, Southwest along CRAIN HWY to the western shore of the Patuxent River and the County Boundary with Prince Georges County, Northwest along County Boundary Prince George's and Howard County Boundaries to Railroad Tracks, Northeast along Railroad Tracks and Boundary with Howard County to the Little Patuxent River, East and South along the Little Patuxent River to ORIENT FISHTAIL RD & RUSSETT GRN E, Southeast along RUSSETT GRN E to LYNDHURST ST & FARAWAY HILLS DR, Northeast along FARAWAY HILLS DR to FARAWAY HILLS DR & ORION CIR & PENNINGTON DR East along PENNINGTON DR to GANGES RD & PENNINGTON DR Northwest along GANGES RD to MISSISSIPPI RD & GANGES RD North along MISSISSIPPI RD to MISSISSIPPI & AMAZON LN, North to the Little Patuxent River, Southeast along the Little Patuxent River to SAVAGE RD RT32, Northwest along SAVAGE RD Rt 32 to SAVAGE RD RT32 & EB RT 32 FROM WB CANINE RD, Northeast on CANINE RD to northern Boundary of Fort George G. Meade Military Reservation, Fort George G. Meade Military Reservation boundary to Midway Branch Tributary, Southeast along ANNAPOLIS RD to starting point at 26TH ST & ANNAPOLIS RD & DISNEY RD.

District 5

Starting at 76°32'53.227"W 39°5'42.362"N at Old Man Creek and Baltimore Annapolis Blvd, east along south shore to the Magothy River, Southeast along west bank of the Magothy River and its tributaries to the Chesapeake Bay, northwest along the northern shore of the Severn River, to Severn Run Tributary west to I97, North along I97 to I97 & BRIGHTVIEW DR, East along BRIGHTVIEW DR to BRIGHTVIEW DR & OBRECHT RD, Northeast along OBRECHT RD to JUMPERS HOLE RD & OBRECHT RD, North along Jumpers Hole Rd to Magothy Branch Tributary, East to RITCHIE HWY, Southeast along RITCHIE HWY to RITCHIE HWY & EARLEIGH HEIGHTS RD W, East along EARLEIGH HEIGHTS RD W to MAGOTHY BRIDGE RD, East along MAGOTHY BRIDGE RD to MAGOTHY BRIDGE RD & OLD EARLEIGH HEIGHTS RD, Northeast along OLD EARLEIGH HEIGHTS RD to BALTIMORE ANNAPOLIS BLVD & OLD EARLEIGH HEIGHTS RD South along BALTIMORE ANNAPOLIS BLVD to the starting point at Old Man Creek and Baltimore Annapolis Blvd.

District 6

Including St. Helena Island,
Starting at HERALD HARBOR RD & RIVER RD at 76°34'50.782"W 39°2'31.714"N,
Southeast along Little Round Bay Tributary to Little Round Bay and the Severn River,
following the western shore of the Severn River and its tributaries,
Southeast to the Chesapeake Bay,
Continuing along the western shore of the Chesapeake Bay,
Northwest along the north shore of the South River and its tributaries to the headwaters of the
South River and Johns Hopkins Rd.,
Northeast along Johns Hopkins Rd to Johns Hopkins Rd & Saint Stephens Church Rd,
South to Saint Stephens Church Rd and Saint Stephens Woods Dr:
East to Bacon Ridge Branch Tributary,
Following Bacon Ridge Branch Tributary to the northern boundary of the Maryland
Environmental Trust Property,
East along the northern boundary of the Maryland Environmental Trust Property to I97,
Crossing I-97 and following to the southeast the North boundary of Crownsville Hospital
property (owned by the State of Maryland) to COMMUNITY PL & FAIRFIELD LOOP RD,
Northwest along COMMUNITY PL to COMMUNITY PL & FAIRFIELD LOOP RD
North along FAIRFIELD LOOP RD to FAIRFIELD LOOP RD & GENERALS HWY
North along GENERALS HWY to HERALD HARBOR RD & GENERALS HWY
East along HERALD HARBOR RD to HERALD HARBOR RD & RIVER RD starting point.

District 7

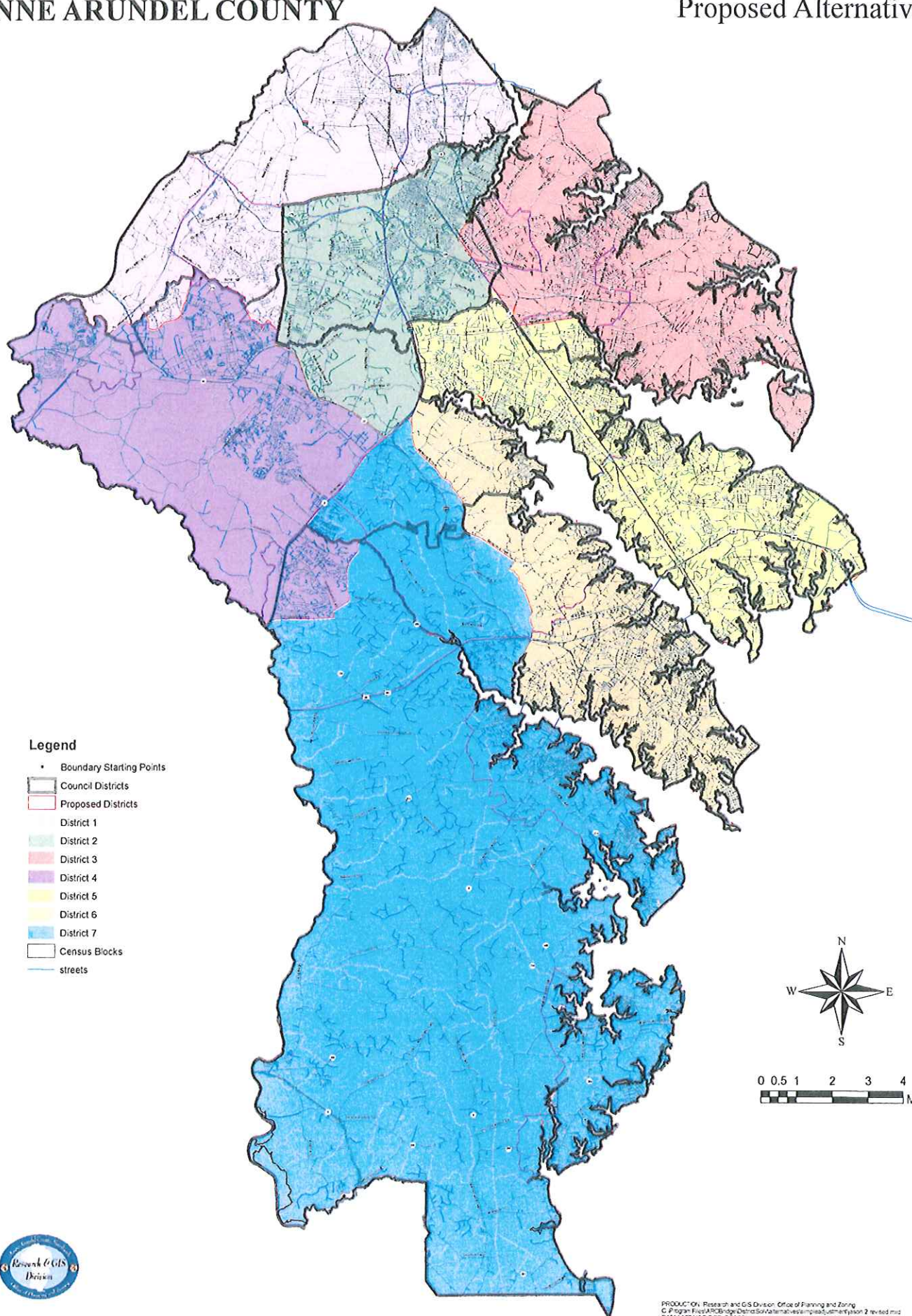
Including Turkey Point Island and Little Island, Flat Island, Big island, and High Island.
Starting at 76°33'24.409"W 38°56'55.329"N at Solomon's Island Rd and the south shore of the
South River,
Following the South River shoreline south to the Chesapeake Bay,
South along the western shore of the Chesapeake Bay to WALNUT AVE & BEACH AVE and
the County Boundary with Calvert County,
Following the County Boundary with Calvert County to the west and north to Lyons Creek,
Following Lyons Creek to the west to the eastern shore of the Patuxent River, North along the
eastern shore of the Patuxent River and the County Boundary with Prince George's County to
Rt 3 Crain Hwy,
Northeast following the centerline of Crain Hwy. to CRAIN HWY & JOHNS HOPKINS RD,
Southeast along JOHNS HOPKINS RD to JOHNS HOPKINS RD & RIEDEL RD,
South along RIEDEL RD to FARMINGHAM LN & RIEDEL RD & JOHNS HOPKINS RD
East along JOHNS HOPKINS RD to JOHNS HOPKINS and the headwaters of the South River
1,500 feet east of the Johns Hopkins Rd and Underwood Rd., Southeast along western shore of
the South River to the starting point at Solomons Island Rd and the western shore of the South
River.

APPENDIX B

**Proposed Alternative 5 Map
Boundary Descriptions
Population Graph**

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Proposed Alternative 5



PROPOSED ALTERNATIVE 5 – DISTRICT BOUNDARY DESCRIPTIONS

District 1

Starting at County Boundary: 76°35'13.749"W 39°11'11.631"N
On the North Shore of Curtis Creek.
West along Shoreline crossing Ritchie Hwy.
Southwest to 8TH AVE NW & DORSEY RD & BALTIMORE ANNAPOLIS BLVD
West along DORSEY RD to DORSEY RD & OLD DORSEY RD
Southwest along OLD DORSEY RD to RAILROAD AVE & OLD DORSEY RD
South along the Railroad Tracks to the Severn Run Tributary,
Northwest along Severn Run Tributary to QUIET SPRING DR,
to QUIET SPRING DR & BRAGG BLVD
Southwest along QUIET SPRING DR to BRAGG BLVD & QUIET SPRING DR
North to CANNON RIDGE DR & CANNON BALL WAY
Northwest to TOWN CENTER BLVD,
North on TOWN CENTER BLVD to REECE RD & JACOBS RD W,
Northwest following the Fort George G. Meade Military Reservation boundary to CITADEL DR &
DISNEY RD,
West along DISNEY RD to 26TH ST & ANNAPOLIS RD & DISNEY RD
Northwest along ANNAPOLIS RD to ANNAPOLIS RD & Midway branch Tributary,
South to Rockenbach Rd,
Southwest along ROCKENBACH RD to CANINE RD & ROCKENBACH RD
Northwest along CANINE RD to CANINE RD & ROAD A & COLONY SEVEN RD
Southwest to RT32
West along EB RT 32 FROM NB RT 295 to BALTIMORE WASHINGTON PKY Southwest along
BALTIMORE WASHINGTON PKY to BALTIMORE WASHINGTON PKY & Little Patuxent River
Tributary,
Northwest to County Boundary with Howard County
Northeast following boundary with Howard and Baltimore Counties,
North east to County Boundary with City of Baltimore,
Southeast to the Patapsco River,
South to Curtis Bay,
West to starting point.

District 2

Starting at: 76°34'48.687"W 39°11'7.242"N on the West Shore of Marley Creek South along the
shoreline
Following Marley Creek Tributary southwest to RITCHIE HWY
Southeast along RITCHIE HWY to JUMPERS HOLE RD & RITCHIE HWY
South along JUMPERS HOLE RD to JUMPERS HOLE RD & OBRECHT RD
Southwest along OBRECHT RD to BRIGHTVIEW DR & MARTIN DR & OBRECHT RD
West along BRIGHTVIEW DR to I97 & BRIGHTVIEW DR
South along I97 to CRAIN HWY & SB RT
Southwest along CRAIN HWY to CRAIN HWY & SB RT 3 TO NB RT 32
West on RT32 to Railroad Tracks
North to RAILROAD AVE & OLD DORSEY RD
Northeast along OLD DORSEY RD to DORSEY RD & OLD DORSEY RD
East along DORSEY RD to 8TH AVE NW & DORSEY RD & BALTIMORE ANNAPOLIS BLVD

Northeast along Sawmill Creek to the south shore of Furnace Creek
East along the south shoreline to Marley Creek and starting point

District 3

Starting at: 76°31'23.06"W 39°10'32.56"N on the western shore of the Patapsco River at the end of Cluster Ct
Southeast along the western shore of the Patapsco river to the Chesapeake Bay and GIBSON ISLE CAUSEWAY RD & MOUNTAIN RD
Including all of Gibson Island, Dobbins Island and Little Dobbins Island following the north shore of the Magothy River to EDGEWATER RD
South to EDGEWATER RD & HARLEM AVE
West along HARLEM AVE to CATHERINE AVE & HARLEM AVE
West along CATHERINE AVE to PASADENA RD & BALTIMORE ANNAPOLIS BLVD & CATHERINE AVE
West along PASADENA to Ritchie Hwy
North to RITCHIE HWY & Marley Creek Tributary
Northeast following Marley Creek to Curtis Cree the the County Boundary with City of Baltimore
East along County Boundary to the Patapsco River
South along western shore of the Patapsco River to starting point.

District 4

Starting at: 76°44'17.743"W 39°7'49.526"N ROCKENBACH RD to ANNAPOLIS RD
Southeast along ANNAPOLIS RD to 26TH ST & ANNAPOLIS RD & DISNEY RD
East along DISNEY RD to CITADEL DR & DISNEY RD
Southeast on Disney Rd. to REECE RD & JACOBS RD W
Southeast following Fort George G. Meade Military Reservation to REECE RD & JACOBS RD W,
Southeast along Fort George G. Meade Military Reservation Boundary to TOWN CENTER BLVD.,
South along TOWN CENTER BLVD. 780 feet,
West along property boundary to CANNON RIDGE DR & CANNON BALL WAY,
South to BRAGG BLVD & QUIET SPRING DR,
Northeast along BRAGG BLVD to Severn Run Tributary,
Following the Severn Run Tributary to the southeast to the Railroad Track,
South along Railroad Track to JACKSON GROVE RD,
Southeast to Rt 32
Southeast along RT32 to to Rt 3 CRAIN HWY
Southwest on Rt 3 CRAIN HWY To Johns Hopkins Rd
Southeast along JOHNS HOPKINS RD to JOHNS HOPKINS RD & RIEDEL RD
South along RIEDEL RD to FARMINGHAM LN & RIEDEL RD & JOHNS HOPKINS RD
East along JOHNS HOPKINS RD to JOHNS HOPKINS RD & UNDERWOOD RD
South along UNDERWOOD RD to UNDERWOOD RD & SALFORD DR
West along SALFORD DR to SALFORD CT & SALFORD DR
Southeast to UNDERWOOD RD & GINGER DR
Southwest along UNDERWOOD RD to CARDINAL CREST DR & UNDERWOOD RD & DAVIDSONVILLE RD
South along DAVIDSONVILLE RD
West along DEFENSE HWY to RT3

Southwest to on Rt 3 to the County Boundary and eastern shore of the Patuxent River
Northwest along County Boundary Patuxent River
Northeast along Patuxent River past RT 198 to LAUREL RACE TRACK RD
Northeast to WHISKEY BOTTOM RD
Northeast on train tracks to Little Patuxent River
Little Patuxent River Southeast to BALTIMORE WASHINGTON PKY .
Northeast to Rt 32 and CANINE RD & ROAD A & COLONY SEVEN RD
Southeast along CANINE RD to CANINE RD & ROCKENBACH RD
Northeast along ROCKENBACH RD to Midway Branch to Annapolis Rd
South on Annapolis Rd to ROCKENBACH RD and starting point.

District 5

Starting at County Boundary: 76°32'45.056"W 9°5'11.201"N
Cattail Creek
Southeast along the south shoreline of the Magothy River
South to Sandy Point , Greenberry Point and following the Eastern shore
Of the Severn River up to Severn Run
Northwest to I97
North along I97 to I97 & BRIGHTVIEW DR
East along BRIGHTVIEW DR to BRIGHTVIEW DR & MARTIN DR & OBRECHT RD
Northeast along OBRECHT RD to JUMPERS HOLE RD & OBRECHT RD
North along JUMPERS HOLE RD to JUMPERS HOLE RD & RITCHIE HWY
South on RITCHIE HWY to Pasadena RD
East along PASADENA RD to PASADENA RD & BALTIMORE ANNAPOLIS BLVD &
CATHERINE AVE
East along CATHERINE AVE to CATHERINE AVE & HARLEM AVE
East along HARLEM AVE to EDGEWATER RD & HARLEM AVE
North to western shore of the Magothy River,
South along western Shore of Magothy River to Start

District 6

Including Saint Helena Island,
Starting: 76°36'58.853"W 39°4'49.325"N
Severn Run Tributary and South Shore of Severn River
Southeast along Western Shore of Severn River to the Chesapeake Bay
Northeast along the northern shore of the South River
Eastern Shore of Broad Creek to Broad Creek Tributary crossing
HARRY S TRUMAN PKY and RT50
North along Broad Creek
North to HONEYSUCKLE RIDGE CT & HONEYSUCKLE LN
Northeast along HONEYSUCKLE LN to Northwest on Generals Hwy
Northwest along GENERALS HWY to VETERANS HWY & GENERALS HWY
Northeast along VETERANS HWY to SAINT ANNE LN & VETERANS HWY
Northeast to Severn Run
East along Severn Run to Start.

District 7

Including Turkey Point Island and Little Island, Flat Island, Big Island, and High Island
Starting at: 76°31'34.759"W 38°55'25.843"N Starting on the shoreline of the South River near
Brewer Point

Southeast following the shoreline of the Chesapeake Bay to WALNUT AVE & BEACH AVE and
the County Boundary with Calvert County,

Following the County Boundary with Calvert County to the west and north to Lyons Creek,
Following Lyons Creek to the west to the eastern shore of the Patuxent River, North along the
eastern shore of the Patuxent River and the County Boundary with Prince George's County to
Rt 3 Crain Hwy,

Northeast at CRAIN HWY to Crain HWY & DEFENSE HWY

East along DEFENSE HWY to DAVIDSONVILLE RD & DEFENSE HWY

North along DAVIDSONVILLE RD to CARDINAL CREST DR & UNDERWOOD RD &
DAVIDSONVILLE RD

Northeast along UNDERWOOD RD to UNDERWOOD RD & GINGER DR

North along UNDERWOOD RD to JOHNS HOPKINS RD & UNDERWOOD RD

West along JOHNS HOPKINS RD to FARMINGHAM LN & RIEDEL RD & JOHNS HOPKINS
RD

West along FARMINGHAM LN to FARMINGHAM LN & RIEDEL RD

North along RIEDEL RD to JOHNS HOPKINS RD & RIEDEL RD

Northwest along JOHNS HOPKINS RD to EVERGREEN RD & CRAIN HWY & JOHNS
HOPKINS RD

Northeast along CRAIN HWY Generals HWY

Southeast along GENERALS HWY to GENERALS HWY & HONEYSUCKLE LN

Southwest along HONEYSUCKLE LN to HONEYSUCKLE RIDGE CT & HONEYSUCKLE LN

South along Broad Creek tributary

South along western shore of Broad Creek

Northwest along shore of South River near to RT 50

Southeast along shore of South River

South past Riva RD along County Boundary to Start.

APPENDIX C

Commission Minutes

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

Minutes - Meeting #1

April 28, 2011 - 9:00 A.M.

Room 161, Arundel Center, Annapolis, MD

The meeting convened at 9:10 A.M. with all members present:

Jana Carey
Linda Schuett
Joshua Greene
Dirk Haire
Jason Rheinstein (arrived at 9:20 A.M.)

Also present were:

Judy C. Holmes, Administrative Officer
JoAnne Gray, Assistant Administrative Officer
Beth Jones, Future Administrative Officer
Amy Tate, Legislative Counsel
Lee Longo, Reporter to the Commission
Margaret Kaii-Ziegler, Demographer, Office of Planning and Zoning
Carole Sanner, Office of Planning and Zoning
David Plymyer, Deputy County Attorney

Dick Ladd, Chairman of the County Council thanked the members of the Charter Revision Commission for volunteering their time to serve on the Commission.

Introduction of Members and Staff

Judy C. Holmes asked the staff, members, and others in attendance to introduce themselves. Ms. Holmes briefly described the process. She stated that redistricting, the redrawing of Councilmanic boundaries, is the first order of business, with an interim report to the County Council due in 60 days and a final report in 120 days. Following redistricting, the Commission will begin review of the Charter and make recommendations for changes.

Briefing by Counsel

David A. Plymyer, Deputy County Attorney, briefed the Commission on redistricting guidelines and cited relevant case law. Mr. Plymyer reminded the members that meetings of the Commission are subject to the State Open Meetings Act and are recorded. The Commission has one year from the time of appointment, to complete its work.

Mr. Plymyer emphasized that the Commission acts in an advisory capacity only; the final decision on redistricting will be made by the County Council acting on the recommendations of the Commission in the form of an ordinance. Such an ordinance requires a vote of five members and is not subject to executive veto. However, it is subject to referendum by petition.

In regard to Charter amendments, Mr. Plymyer stated that the recommendations of the Commission are acted on by the County Council in the form of a resolution, which also requires five votes for passage and is not subject to veto.

Mr. Plymyer referred to three pieces of reading material that the Commission might want to read which refer to the Charter. Ms. Tate will furnish these reports to the members of the Commission.

Mr. Plymyer handed out and went over Frequently Asked Questions.

Mr. Rheinstein requested a copy of the report from the 1991 Commission. Ms. Holmes said she would provide that report.

Briefing by Demographer

Margaret Kaii-Ziegler, Office of Planning and Zoning, stated that she met with the Election Board and they have to come up with new precincts and decide where they will hold polling places. They are waiting for the State to do legislation which won't start until the fall and will be finalized sometime in the winter. Ms. Ziegler wasn't sure whether this information tied in with what the Commission would be doing.

Mr. Plymyer explained to Ms. Ziegler that those are State precinct lines and the Commission's concern is with Councilmanic Districts.

Ms. Ziegler briefly discussed the population changes in the County since the last census. She stated that redistricting includes population, race and ethnicity. She said that the problem with the American Community Survey data is that there is a high margin of error. The socio-economic information from ACS is based on the 2000 census and that census was off by 20,000 people in Anne Arundel County, therefore, there would be a discrepancy.

Mr. Greene wanted to clarify that the Commission would be looking at the lines of the Councilmanic Districts; there may be a recommendation that is status quo, or the need to add two more districts in ten years.

In response to Mr. Greene's question as to the ideal number of citizens per Councilmanic district, a discussion ensued among the members and staff regarding increasing the number of districts and the timing and sequencing that would be necessary to effect this change.

Ms. Carey said it would be helpful if there were guidelines and definitions of those guidelines for redistricting.

Ms. Schuett said that there is a "Citizen's Guide to Redistricting" available online that gives an overall view of redistricting.

There was further discussion among the members and staff regarding the census numbers and boundaries of the Councilmanic Districts.

Vote for Chairman and Vice Chairman

After each member gave a brief synopsis of their background, Ms. Holmes asked them to vote on a Chairman and a Vice Chairman.

Mr. Greene made a motion to appoint Ms. Carey as the Chairman of the Commission. The members voted unanimously by a show of hands and Ms. Carey was elected chairman.

Mr. Haire made a motion to appoint Ms. Schuett as Vice-Chairman. The members voted unanimously by a show of hands and Ms. Schuett was elected chairman.

Meeting Schedule

The members decided that future meetings would be scheduled for each Friday beginning at 9:00 A.M. in the Chambers of the Arundel Center. The next meeting will be on Friday, May 6, at 9:00 A.M.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:37 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee L. Longo
Reporter

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION
Minutes - Meeting #2
May 6, 2011 - 9:00 A.M.
Council Chambers, Arundel Center, Annapolis, MD

The meeting convened at 9:10 A.M. with the following members present:

Jana Carey
Linda Schuett
Joshua Greene
Dirk Haire

Mr. Rheinstein was absent.

Also present were:

Judy C. Holmes, Administrative Officer
JoAnne Gray, Assistant Administrative Officer
Beth Jones, Future Administrative Officer
Amy Tate, Legislative Counsel
Lee Longo, Reporter to the Commission
Margaret Kaii-Ziegler, Demographer, Office of Planning and Zoning
Carole Sanner, Office of Planning and Zoning

Ethics Law

Amy Tate, Legislative Counsel, stated that the Commission is subject to the Open Meetings Act and correspondence is public. She said Mr. Plymyer from the Office of Law sent a suggestion to the Commission to retain electronic messages by either printing them out or in an electronic file.

Ms. Schuett asked Ms. Tate if everything could be copied to her and she could keep the file. Ms. Tate answered affirmatively.

Ms. Tate handed out a pocket-size version of The Ethics Code. She stated that while the Commission is not subject to a financial disclosure, it is subject to The Ethics Law of Anne Arundel County.

Guidelines for Redistricting

Ms. Tate provided information to the members of the Commission regarding Guidelines for Redistricting and went over equality of population, The Voting Rights Act, and other items pertaining to redistricting.

Ms. Schuett asked if there were maps that showed racial classification.

Margaret Kaii-Ziegler, Research & GIS Division, Office of Planning and Zoning, stated that the Census information that will come from the State will be broken down by census blocks which will show racial classification.

Ms. Carey referred to the 1991 Redistricting Report and the 2001 Redistricting Report. She said that District 7 exceeded the population average per district by almost 13% and District 2 was under the average about 8% and District 6 was under the average by 6.7%. She stated that none of those districts were adjacent to each other so they had to do a lot of moving around in terms of redistricting. Ms. Carey said that they also tested and rejected a nine district plan due to the peninsula nature of Anne Arundel would result in a split of too many communities.

Ms. Carey said that by looking at the information received so far for this year, it looks as though there are two districts that deviate by more than 5%. District 1 is under by 9.63% and District 4 is above average by 10.93%. These two districts are adjacent to each other.

Map Presentation

Ms. Ziegler stated that the data that is provided to Planning and Zoning is from the Census Bureau at the block level but because of the legislation from the State of Maryland for those that are incarcerated the numbers must be adjusted. The Maryland Department of Planning is revising those numbers to provide to Planning and Zoning data at the block level. She expects to have that information shortly.

Ms. Ziegler said that the information she has used thus far was aggregated from precinct level from Maryland Department of Planning.

Ms. Schuett asked Ms. Ziegler what she meant by precinct level.

Ms. Ziegler said that the only information provided at this point is the revised census information from 2010; populations by precinct. It was not available at the block level at that time. She said that precincts nest within council districts.

Ms. Ziegler stated that the County Council Office has purchased DISTRICTSolve software and ArcView tools. She said that the software takes the information at the block level and aggregates the information. It will make a recommendation as to how to modify boundaries, allow changes to be made, print out a report showing population and the racial make-up as things get moved around.

There was further discussion among the members and staff regarding the census numbers and boundaries of the Councilmanic Districts. Emphasis should be on current population numbers and due regard to natural boundaries and communities of interest.

Ms. Ziegler is to provide proposals for the Commission to review at the next meeting.

Future Meetings

The following are dates established as part of the Charter Review Commission schedule:

May 16, 2011 – 9:00 A.M. – CRC Meeting

June 8, 2011 – 9:00 A.M. – CRC Meeting

June 27, 2011 – 7:00 P.M. – Public Hearing 1

July 18, 2011 – 7:00 P.M. – Interim Report presented to County Council

July 25, 2011 – 7:00 P.M. – Public Hearing 2

September 6, 2011 – 7:00 P.M. – Final Redistricting Report to County Council

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:38 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee L. Longo
Reporter

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION
Minutes - Meeting #3
May 16, 2011 - 9:00 A.M.
Council Chambers, Arundel Center, Annapolis, MD

The meeting convened at 9:00 A.M. with the following members present:

Jana Carey
Linda Schuett
Joshua Greene
Dirk Haire
Jason Rheinstein (arrived at 9:23 a.m.)

Also present were:

Judy C. Holmes, Administrative Officer
JoAnne Gray, Assistant Administrative Officer
Amy Tate, Legislative Counsel
Lee Longo, Reporter to the Commission
Margaret Kaii-Ziegler, Demographer, Office of Planning and Zoning
Carole Sanner, Office of Planning and Zoning

Approval of Minutes

On motion of Ms. Schuett, seconded by Mr. Haire, the minutes of April 28, 2011, and May 6, 2011 were approved as presented.

Future Meetings

Following discussion regarding future meetings and public hearings, it was decided that the Commission would hold meetings on June 1, June 8, Friday, June 17, and Friday, June 24. The first public hearing will be held on June 27 and the presentation of the CRC Redistricting Interim Report to the County Council on July 18. The second public hearing on redistricting will be held on July 25 and presentation of the final redistricting report to the County Council will be on September 6. Meetings will be held in the Council Chambers, if available, and if a member of the Commission is unable to attend a meeting and requests to listen in by speakerphone, then a conference room will be used.

Mapping Software/Redistricting Presentation

Margaret Kaii-Ziegler, Demographer, Office of Planning and Zoning, stated that she created the Google website for the Commission to look at some alternatives regarding redistricting. She gave a brief explanation as to how to access the website and what it will show, but due to some technical difficulties, she had to revert to using the DISTRICTSolve software to show the scenarios she created.

The first alternative was slightly modifying the boundary between District 4 and District 1 to balance the population. The second showed moving Crofton from District 7 to District 4 and re-balancing District 1 through 6. This alternative showed that District 7 remained out of balance.

After considering several proposals regarding Districts 1 and 4, it was decided by the Commission that the alternative that Ms. Ziegler originally proposed regarding the boundary between Districts 1 and 4 was more of the ideal solution. The Commission also discussed that if, at the public hearing, there are strong sentiments or arguments in favor of doing something with a particular area then the Commission could consider those suggestions at that point.

There was further discussion between the Commission and Planning and Zoning regarding other districts. Mr. Rheinstein said that he would prefer more time to look at the different alternatives more closely by going on the Google website.

Mr. Greene stated that as part of the next meeting, it would be beneficial to have the current alternatives that were proposed at this meeting, as well as a map using the software showing the ideal number of what the districts would look like without taking the neighborhoods into consideration. He said that part of the public's perception is going to be is how the Commission arrived at the final decisions and the public needs to see what the County would look like if neighborhoods and communities were not taken into consideration.

Mr. Haire said that it would be helpful if there were large colorful maps showing the existing Council lines, and the map showing some of District 4 being put into District 1 which would show the roads, natural boundaries, and streets.

Ms. Carey summarized by saying that there is a proposal before the Commission that gets the numbers of each district within the standard deviation, does not break-up any census block, and does not split any communities. Ms. Carey suggested that the members look at the Google program to see if there is any overriding reason to deviate from what Ms. Ziegler has proposed, and as that is being done take into consideration what it would do to the census blocks, communities, and how it would affect the dividing lines such as roads and streets.

Ms. Schuett said she would like to see Ms. Ziegler's best effort in creating the perfect map by taking into account all of those considerations.

Ms. Sanner recommended that when taking communities into consideration, such as Seven Oaks, Russet, and Piney Orchard, Commission members should remember that those are communities with strong associations and affiliations and should not be split.

The Commission asked Ms. Ziegler to provide large colorful maps that would show the original proposal between Districts 1 and 4; one with each district if the population was equalized without taking any issue into consideration; and one that would show each district adjusted by taking all issues that have been discussed into consideration.

Ms. Ziegler said that she would e-mail PDF files to the Commission, and make them available on the Google site, as well as providing hard copies.

Future Meetings

Ms. Carey said that the next two meetings would be on June 1 and June 8. She reminded the members to hold open Friday mornings at 9:00 a.m. going forward.

Ms. Schuett raised some questions regarding the public hearings.

Ms. Carey asked Ms. Holmes who would be drafting the Interim Report. Ms. Holmes replied that Ms. Tate had volunteered to do the Report.

Ms. Tate stated that she planned to model the report after the previous report.

Ms. Schuett asked Ms. Tate if information would be provided at the public hearing so everyone could see what the Commission has been doing and which direction they are headed.

Ms. Tate responded affirmatively.

Ms. Schuett suggested that copies of maps and a draft Interim Report be made available to the public at the hearing.

Ms. Carey asked the members what their thoughts were concerning the public hearing.

Mr. Greene stated that he believes any map that is being produced by Planning and Zoning for the Commission's consideration should be made available to the public either on the website or by hard copies at the public hearings.

Ms. Tate said that there is a website that shows the Charter Revision Commission's meeting schedule and that links could be provided for further information to the public.

The Commission was in agreement with Mr. Greene's statements regarding the public hearings.

There was some further discussion between the Commission and Ms. Sanner concerning the public hearings.

Adjournment

On motion of Ms. Schuett, seconded by Mr. Greene, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:54A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee L. Longo
Reporter

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION
Minutes - Meeting #4
June 1, 2011 - 9:00 A.M.
Council Chambers, Arundel Center, Annapolis, MD

The meeting convened at 9:00 A.M. with the following members present:

Jana Carey
Linda Schuett
Joshua Greene
Dirk Haire
Jason Rheinstein (arrived at 9:13 a.m.)

Also present were:

JoAnne Gray, Assistant Administrative Officer
Beth Jones, Future Administrative Officer
Amy Tate, Legislative Counsel
Lee Longo, Reporter to the Commission
Margaret Kaii-Ziegler, Demographer, Office of Planning and Zoning
Carole Sanner, Office of Planning and Zoning

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of May 16, 2011 were approved as presented.

Discussion of Maps Prepared by Ms. Ziegler

Ms. Carey stated that Ms. Ziegler prepared four maps; one showing current Council Districts; one showing a simple adjustment between Districts 4 and 1 that would bring the population disparity into compliance with that allowed in the Districts; a simple adjustment with a further refinement; and one for informational purposes only, a map that shows what the Districts would look like if there was an equal population.

Margaret Kaii-Ziegler, Demographer, Office of Planning and Zoning, stated that with the Simple Adjustment Refinement 1 Map, she tried to refine the polygons for the Districts so that the population was as close to being balanced as possible without affecting neighborhoods or communities. Ms. Ziegler said that when balancing the population some of the things that must be kept in mind are compactness, continuity, following natural boundaries, and balance of the population. She said that the compactness on this map is not as good as on the Simple Adjustment Map. When you try to balance the population as much as possible, the polygons are not as compact.

Ms. Carey asked Ms. Ziegler if the refinement map affects more borders than the simple adjustment map. Ms. Carey said that as she looked at the map, it appeared that the borders that were affected were Districts 1 and 2; 1 and 4; 4 and 6; 3 and 2; 5 and 3; 5 and 2; and 2 and 4. She asked Ms. Ziegler if this was correct.

Ms. Ziegler answered affirmatively.

Mr. Greene referred to the map and asked what the two areas were that were coming from District 4 into District 6.

Ms. Ziegler said one was Herald Harbor and the other was Crownsville Hospital.

Mr. Greene asked if those areas were being taken out in the simple adjustment.

Ms. Ziegler said that the simple adjustment follows all of the existing boundaries.

Ms. Ziegler pointed to the refinement map and showed areas that would be moved; an area in District 4 would become District 2; two areas in District 4 would become District 1; an area in District 2 would become 3; an area in District 6 would become District 4; an area in District 7 would become District 6.

Ms. Carey stated that given the fact that the deviations in the simple adjustment map are within the parameters that are acceptable, she questioned if there was a reason to move the people from district to district as shown on the refinement map.

Mr. Greene responded by saying that is the reason for the public hearings.

Ms. Carey said a concern she has with the refinement map is that the plan is not as compact as the simple adjustment map and there are more borders among the districts that are affected by the refinement map.

Ms. Carey said that she views the map which shows balanced population as being for informational purposes only and asked if anyone had a comment regarding the map.

Ms. Schuett agreed with Ms. Carey.

Ms. Carey asked if anyone had any comments or questions regarding the Simple Adjustment Map or the Simple Adjustment Refinement Map.

Ms. Carey stated that the Commission appeared ready for the public hearing with the Simple Adjustment and Simple Adjustment Refinement Maps that have been presented at this meeting.

Ms. Ziegler described the Google Web Site to the Commission but was unable to show them the site due to some technical difficulties with her laptop.

There was further discussion among the Commission and Planning and Zoning concerning what maps would be made available to the public prior to the public hearing.

Mr. Haire stated that he had emailed some maps that he created but there was a problem with the file that was sent and no one could open them.

There was further discussion regarding Mr. Haire's maps and the discussion will be continued at the next meeting on June 8, 2011. Mr. Haire stated that Dan LaDorf, a political consultant, prepared the maps for him.

Adjournment

On motion of Ms. Schuett, seconded by Mr. Greene, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:57A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee L. Longo
Reporter

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION
Minutes - Meeting #5
June 17, 2011 - 9:00 A.M.
Council Chambers, Arundel Center, Annapolis, MD

The meeting convened at 9:16 A.M. with the following members present:

Jana Carey
Linda Schuett
Joshua Greene (arrived at 9:31 a.m.)
Jason Rheinstein (arrived at 9:16 a.m.)

Commissioner Dirk Haire was absent.

Also present were:

Beth Jones, Future Administrative Officer
Amy Tate, Legislative Counsel
Lee Longo, Reporter to the Commission
Margaret Kaii-Ziegler, Demographer, Office of Planning and Zoning
Carole Sanner, Office of Planning and Zoning

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of June 1, 2011 were approved as presented.

Discussion of Maps Prepared by Commissioner Dirk Haire – Presented by Margaret Kaii-Ziegler, Demographer, Office of Planning and Zoning

Ms. Ziegler stated that the biggest concern with Proposed Alternative 1 is splitting Odenton Town Center between two districts. She said that currently Odenton is in District IV.

Carole Sanner, Office of Planning and Zoning, stated that the Odenton Town Center has its own plan which was adopted by the County Council for the development of the entire Town Center. She said that splitting the Town Center would be detrimental to the plan.

Ms. Ziegler said that each of the three proposed alternatives prepared by Mr. Haire has different issues. She stated that the splitting of Odenton is in all three of the alternatives.

Mr. Rheinstein asked if the railroad track was used as a boundary, are the areas east and west of the railroad track different in how they would identify the population.

Ms. Sanner stated that Odenton considers itself to be a community. She said that they could move things around to see what it does to the existing population count but wouldn't recommend it as a viable alternative.

Ms. Schuett said that she has worked with the West County Chamber of Commerce, some of the developers and people who are interested in that area, and believes it would be a major mistake to split any of the Odenton area.

Ms. Schuett said she believes that Proposed Alternative 1 was based on her question whether there was a way to bring Crownsville together. She stated that she would withdraw that request based on this map and is no longer in favor of Alternative 1 based on what it does to Odenton.

Ms. Ziegler stated that there are other splits in Alternative 1 which would require moving population around. She said that Solomon's Ridge is split into two districts; Crofton is split, but does not address the whole Crofton issue. She also pointed out that with the splits, Councilman Benoit would no longer be in District IV.

Mr. Rheinstein said that Councilman Benoit would not be running again because he is term limited. He stated that he is in favor of putting waterfront communities together in District VI. Mr. Rheinstein said that the entire north shore of the Severn River is in District V. The two precincts that are currently in District IV that encompass the communities of Herald Harbor, Arden, Indian Landing, etc., along the south shore of the Severn River share a lot of issues with the other communities that are further down the river. He said that splitting the south shore of the river doesn't seem to make a lot of sense.

Ms. Ziegler said that Proposed Alternative 2 shows Odenton and Piney Orchard split in half. She stated that Piney Orchard is another area that is of concern. She said Peachtree Mobile Home Park, Baldwin Hills and Solomon's Ridge are other areas shown on Alternative 2 that are split.

Ms. Ziegler said that Proposed Alternative 3 also shows Odenton Town Center being split. She said that Crofton becomes more split in Alternative 3; Brooklyn Park and Heritage Harbor are also split in this alternative.

Ms. Sanner said that Brooklyn Park is an area that has been working very hard to revitalize communities and they have been working with Economic Development and Community Development Services to set programs for their communities. She said that from a planning standpoint, splitting Brooklyn Park could become problematic.

Mr. Rheinstein stated that he has looked at these alternatives closely and he believes that all of these issues appear to happen with all of the alternatives because it looks like roads have been used as boundaries between Council Districts.

Ms. Schuett asked Ms. Ziegler if she has looked at the current districts to see whether the current districts have any of the issues that have begun to be identified in the various alternatives.

Ms. Ziegler responded affirmatively. She said that she can see why they have the lines where they have them. She said that if you go to the Adjusted Refinement 1 Map you will see that she created little polyps which don't exist and the continuity is

somewhat comprised.

Ms. Ziegler stated that existing Council District boundaries follow roads, stream valleys and open space outside of subdivisions. She said that the way communities develop and act don't necessarily follow the geographic boundaries that would make the map look good. She gave the example of Heritage Harbor which is split in the third alternative. She said it is a retirement community and it has an organization for the community, yet with this proposal it would be split into two different districts, which doesn't make a lot of sense from a community standpoint.

Mrs. Carey recognized Mr. Greene's arrival and asked Ms. Ziegler to summarize her concerns with Alternatives 1 and 2 for Mr. Greene's benefit.

Ms. Ziegler stated all three of the alternatives are from Mr. Haire. She said that a concern that the Office of Planning and Zoning has with Alternative 1 is the split of the Odenton Town Center. She said with Alternative 2 Odenton Town Center and Piney Orchard is split which is a concern with P&Z.

Ms. Ziegler said that with the current discussion on Alternative 3, the concern is with Brooklyn Park, Heritage Harbor and Odenton Town Center.

Mr. Rheinstein said that he lives in Severna Park which is currently split between Districts 3 and 5. He asked Ms. Ziegler if it would be possible to see the zip code boundary map as it currently exists and with the alternatives, and also the school district, the high school attendance areas.

Ms. Ziegler said that on the Google website, she has made available zip codes and school feeder districts. She stated that zip codes don't necessarily follow community boundaries. She said that the Simple Adjustment Refined Map which shows the boundaries is also on the website. Ms. Ziegler said that the school feeder districts are by high school. She stated that there are changes in the school district boundaries and she is meeting with the school board next week to get the revised boundaries.

Ms. Ziegler showed the Commission the Google website and how it works by using Severna Park as an example. There was further discussion regarding the website among the Commission members and Planning and Zoning regarding the website.

Ms. Ziegler stated that she looked at the racial breakdown of the three alternative maps and said that there was a significant racial change in District 1 and District 4 and wanted the Commission to be aware of this change.

Mrs. Carey asked Mr. Greene if he had any comments regarding Mr. Haire's three proposals.

Mr. Greene said that only one of the proposed alternatives should be considered and that would be number one. He said that he appreciated Mr. Haire's efforts.

Mr. Rheinstein agreed with Mr. Greene regarding the Proposed Alternative Map 1

Discussion of Public Hearing Scheduled for June 27, 2011

Mrs. Carey asked if the maps should be on exhibit for the public hearing. She stated that she would rather get the public input first without putting any maps on display. She said that she spoke with Ms. Holmes, Administrative Officer, County Council, and that Ms. Holmes stated that in the past the Commission simply opened the public hearings after just a brief opening statement.

After further discussion among the Commission, it was decided not to display any maps for the public hearing other than the current district map showing current population numbers in each district.

Mrs. Carey asked the members to e-mail to her, further comments or suggestions for the opening statement that she will read at the public hearing.

Mr. Rheinstein asked that the three proposed alternatives be put on the Google website so the Commission would be able to work with different scenarios. The Commission unanimously decided that no member would give out the information regarding the Google website.

Ms. Ziegler said that she would make Mr. Haire's maps available on the Google website.

There was discussion regarding the time limit for the public hearing. The Commission decided to give the public two minutes per person. It was further decided that an e-mail address would be provided for public comments or considerations.

There was discussion regarding that a notice be made available on the website Monday, June 20th regarding the public hearing which would include Ms. Tate's e-mail address.

Mrs. Carey said that she would send Ms. Tate the draft of the public notice after she receives it from Mr. Greene. Ms. Tate will include the cutoff date of Friday, July 1st for receiving the e-mails in the notice and make it available on the County website on Monday, July 20th.

Review of Schedule

Mrs. Carey asked Ms. Tate when the Interim Report was due to the County Council.

Ms. Tate said that the report is due on Monday, July 18th. She said that her intention is to have the Interim Report finished by July 1st for the Commission to review.

The Commission agreed that no further meeting was needed before the public hearing on June 27, 2011.

Ms. Schuett and the Commission thanked Ms. Ziegler for all of her hard work and told her it was greatly appreciated.

The next meeting will be held on Friday, July 1, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.

Adjournment

On motion of Mr. Rheinstein, seconded by Ms. Schuett, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:37A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee L. Longo
Reporter

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

Minutes

Public Hearing

June 27, 2011 - 7:00 P.M.

Council Chambers, Arundel Center, Annapolis, MD

Mrs. Carey, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. There were approximately 15 persons in the audience. The following Commission members were present:

Jana Carey
Linda Schuett
Dirk Haire
Joshua Greene
Jason Rheinstein

Also present were:

Judy Holmes, Administrative Officer
JoAnne Gray, Assistant Administrative Officer
Amy Tate, Legislative Counsel
Lee Longo, Reporter to the Commission
Approximately

Mrs. Carey explained that every ten years, in the year following the last National Census, the County Council is required to appoint an Anne Arundel County Charter Review Commission. The purpose of the Commission is to evaluate the composition of the County Council Districts and to make recommendations to the County Council for any necessary adjustments to the boundaries of those Districts. The goal is to ensure that each member of the County Council represents about the same number of people in order to achieve equal representation for all. In Maryland, the goal for each District is to be within 5% of the average District population. The Constitutional guidelines for redistricting advise ensuring the compactness and contiguity of the geographic area in each District, and maintaining communities of interest. Mrs. Carey said that County Council Districts 1 and 4 have experienced significant changes in the size of their population since the last Census. She said that the population of these Districts currently deviates from the average District population by more than 5%, with District 1's population being 9.3% below the average District population and District 4's population is 10.93% above the average District population.

Mrs. Carey stated that the Commission's first issue is that of the County Council Redistricting and that the purpose of this Public Hearing is to seek public input on this issue

Public Hearing

Joan Turek, Harwood (District 7), stated that her community is not fairly represented in the County Council because the candidates elected in District 7 are usually from Crofton, since Crofton has a larger population than the southern part of the District, and the interests of the Crofton voters are different from those of the voters in the southern part of District 7—i.e. “South County-- where she lives, which is more rural in nature. . She asked that South County be put into a District with other communities of similar interest.

Charlotte Smutko, Lothian (District 7), asked that South County be put into a District with other communities of similar interest in order to be fairly represented.

Brian Griffiths, Pasadena, (District 3), stated that districts in the County should be representative of the communities in which they serve.

Bob Gallagher, Shadyside (District 7), stated he is Co-Chair of the Anne Arundel County Chapter of the League of Conservation Voters and asked what other issues the Commission will be involved in other than redistricting. He suggested that the formal Comprehensive Rezoning process is a good one. It started out several years ago as a Small Area Plan with citizen involvement and applications had to be filed by a deadline. He said that Planning & Zoning would review the applications and recommended what they thought was consistent with the standards and then it would end up in a bill which was presented before the Council. He stated that is where the problems start.

Mrs. Carey explained that the second purpose of the Commission is to review the County Charter and recommend to the County Council any suggestions for advisable changes to the Charter.

Ms. Schuett told Mr. Gallagher that if he had a specific proposal, she would be happy to hear it or read it if he would put it in writing.

Ms. Turek stated that the Commission did not advertise this meeting and there are people in South County who are interested in this process and asked for the next meeting to be better advertised.

Mrs. Carey said that another public hearing will be held on Monday, July 25 at 7 p.m. in the County Council Chambers. She also stated that the meetings of the Commission are public and the schedule is posted on the County website.

There was no one else present who wished to speak, and the public hearing was concluded.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:15 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee L. Longo
Reporter

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

Minutes - Meeting #6

July 5, 2011 - 9:00 A.M.

Council Chambers, Arundel Center, Annapolis, MD

The meeting convened at 9:02 A.M. with the following members present:

Jana Carey
Dirk Haire
Linda Schuett
Joshua Greene
Jason Rheinstein

Also present were:

Beth Jones, Administrative Officer
Amy Tate, Legislative Counsel
Lee Longo, Reporter to the Commission
Margaret Kaii-Ziegler, Demographer, Office of Planning and Zoning
Carole Sanner, Office of Planning and Zoning
Deborah Sosnoski, Anne Arundel County Professional Fire Fighters (audience)

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of June 17, 2011 were approved as presented.

Review and Discussion of Maps Prepared by Dirk Haire

Mrs. Carey asked if there were questions regarding Commissioner Haire's maps.

Mr. Greene asked that Mr. Haire do a presentation of the maps.

Mr. Haire stated that he asked someone he knew that had the software to produce maps, to see if he could draw a South County rural district and balance the population to as close to a zero percent deviation possible. Mr. Haire referred to Proposed Alternative One and suggested that with this alternative, Crofton and Odenton could be put together in District Four, although that might cause more of a deviation. He stated that if some part of Crofton were left in District 7 then the population number would be more within the accepted deviation. Mr. Haire said this would create a South County district which the people in South County want as stated at the Public Hearing on June 27th. He went on to say that Districts Six, Five and Three would remain the same and District Two would become a North County District with Ferndale, Brooklyn Park and Linthicum.

Mrs. Carey stated that Planning and Zoning had concerns with all three of the alternative maps because they split existing political subdivisions and communities of interest.

Mr. Haire responded by saying that as long as everyone was on board with some slight deviations, then Ms. Ziegler (Planning and Zoning Demographer) would be able to address those concerns by changing the boundary lines.

Mrs. Carey stated that she believes it is preferable to leave existing districts intact as much as possible and maintain the population of each district within the five percent deviation. She said she doesn't think people like to be moved around in terms of where they go to vote and what district they vote in.

Mr. Haire stated that it appeared at the public hearing that people want more substantial changes.

Mr. Rheinstein said that it is his opinion from talking to some of the residents in South County and Crofton that they are not very happy with the way things are now. The people in South County don't want Crofton in their District because they feel they do not get fair representation from their Councilman. He said that some residents in Crofton feel that it makes sense for Crofton and Odenton to be put together in District Four.

Mr. Greene stated that he is a long-time resident of Crofton and he believes there will be strong support to realign what is now District Seven. He said there would not be support to split Crofton into two Districts. Mr. Greene said that he is in favor of the Proposed Alternative One Map with Planning and Zoning making sure that large or known communities not be split.

Ms. Ziegler showed a map on the computer that showed all of Crofton moved out of District Seven and when rebalancing the remaining districts, District Seven showed a negative 24 percent. She said that if District Seven was to be maintained under this scenario, then there would have to be more than Seven Districts to balance the population.

Mr. Rheinstein stated that the Supreme Court has said that the maximum deviation that is tolerable is ten percent. He said that he believes the next best alternative is to look at rural areas that are further north in the county and group them together. Another way is to have more than seven districts which is not feasible at this point.

Ms. Ziegler said there are problems with putting all of Crofton together and all of Odenton together and moving District Seven up to Crownsville. She said that she thinks that District Six would have to split across the Severn River and District Five would start going into District Three. She stated that geographic boundaries would have to be crossed and doesn't know how acceptable that would be.

Mrs. Carey stated that the numbers must be kept within the standard deviation as required by the Maryland Constitution and the natural and political boundaries must be respected.

Mr. Rheinstein shared some of his thoughts regarding the Proposed Alternative One Map which would unify all of Crofton and Odenton and put them into a District that is compact and that meets the population requirements. The boundaries of District One and District Four would change.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding different scenarios about Districts Four and Seven and several of the other districts and boundary lines based on the suggestions by Mr. Rheinstein.

Ms. Sanner stated that she would like to provide the Commission with a copy of the map that shows how the small area plans are laid out. She said that throughout the general development process communities asked if their small area plans were still intact and if that is the basis from which Planning and Zoning would be doing the County plan. Planning and Zoning assured them that was true.

The Commission asked Ms. Ziegler to provide adjustments to the deviations based on the map that Mr. Rheinstein suggested. Mr. Rheinstein also asked Ms. Ziegler to provide comparison scenarios for all of the maps that have been provided so far.

Review of Schedule

Mrs. Carey suggested that the Commission have a meeting Tuesday, July 12, 2011 at 3:30 p.m. to go over the map that Ms. Ziegler will provide, go over the map that shows the small area plan layout and to finalize the Interim Report. The Commissioners agreed.

Adjournment

On motion of Mr. Greene, seconded by Mr. Haire, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:35A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee L. Longo
Reporter

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

Minutes - Meeting #7

July 12, 2011 – 3:30 P.M.

Council Chambers, Arundel Center, Annapolis, MD

The meeting convened at 3:53 P.M. with the following members present:

Jana Carey
Linda Schuett
Jason Rheinstein
Dirk Haire

Mr. Greene was absent.

Also present were:

Beth Jones, Administrative Officer
Amy Tate, Legislative Counsel
Margaret Kaii-Ziegler, Demographer, Office of Planning and Zoning
Carole Sanner, Office of Planning and Zoning
Dwayne Lee
Jacqueline Allsup, NAACP
Frank Smith, Patch.com
Erin Cox, The Capital
Councilman Jerry Walker

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of July 5, 2011 were approved as amended.

The minutes of June 17, 2011 were amended to reflect that the meeting convened at 9:16 A.M.

Discussion of Interim Report to the County Council and Attachments

Mrs. Carey inquired of Ms. Tate whether the County Council had obtained from the County Office of Law an opinion on whether the districts' population deviations from the ideal district population result in a legal requirement that the County redistrict this year. Ms. Tate reported that an opinion had been given and that it had advised that the Council should abide by the 10% deviation requirement, such that each district's population should fall within a range of no more than 10% above or 10% below the ideal population. Therefore, she advised that the Commission should ensure that its recommendations abide by the requirement. Since District 4's population exceeds the ideal population by more than 10%, a recommendation to redistrict is necessary.

Mrs. Carey inquired if the map entitled Crofton Move Revised, prepared by Ms. Ziegler, should be included in the Report to the County Council. Ms. Tate informed her that the Commission is including them to show what work the Commission has done, not necessarily what is up for consideration.

Mr. Rheinstein stated that the Crofton Move Revised map is unique in that it does not meet the balancing requirements. Ms. Tate pointed out that the Report states that this map does not meet the balanced population criteria. Ms. Kaii-Ziegler indicated that she did not create a larger printed map because, when the Crofton Move map was first discussed, a motion was made to only consider alternatives that met the requirement of less than 5% deviation in population.

Mrs. Carey stated that all the maps, except that one, have been structured to where the population falls within the 10% rule. Ms. Schuett stated that she does not think it matters. They are all documents of public record and including them does not give the Commission's viewpoint on them but, rather, informs the County Council of what the Commission is reviewing in its process.

Mr. Rheinstein inquired if the map could be re-titled "Crofton Move Work in Progress". Ms. Shuett inquired if there was time to change titles, make new copies, etc. before the deadline for their presentation. Mrs. Carey said it was her understanding that the maps would not be on display at the County Council meeting. Ms. Tate indicated they would be included as appendices in the report. She indicated that they would be in color if she could get them done by a printer in time.

Ms. Schuett stated that she thought the report was excellent. There was discussion as to how the minutes and maps should be incorporated into the report.

Mrs. Carey asked the Commissioners if they wanted to give the Crofton map a different name, leave it as it is, or take it out of the report together. Mr. Rheinstein stated that it should not be taken out. Ms. Kaii-Ziegler stated that in the Crofton Move map she took Crofton out of District 7 and then redistributed the population of the other six districts. Ms. Schuett inquired if the description of Crofton Move in the report was accurate. Ms. Kaii-Ziegler was not sure. Ms. Tate stated that she thought the Commission should just rename this particular map.

Mr. Haire stated the Commission has not considered anything yet, they have discussed possibilities, and he thinks the report reflects that. He indicated that the maps being discussed would probably not get much further consideration. It was simply to indicate that all maps were open to discussion.

Ms. Kaii-Ziegler stated that the name could be "Current Existing District 7 without Crofton". That is a more accurate description of the map. Ms. Tate asked to include non-balanced under the title. The Commission voted to adopt this as the new name for the map.

Mr. Rheinstein made a motion that they change the name of "Balanced Population Only" to "Computer Generated Balanced Population Only" and in parenthesis underneath include "For discussion purposes only". He amended his motion to "Computer Generated Balanced Population Only". The Commission passed the motion.

Mrs. Carey inquired if there was any further discussion regarding the maps or report to the County Council. No one indicated any concerns.

Mr. Rheinstein asked about drawing a map that actually has the proposed districts the same color as the seven current districts. Mrs. Carey stated that the original map was done that way.

Presentation of Small Area Plan Layout

Ms. Sanner, Office of Planning and Zoning, stated that they did take a look at the small area boundaries. She indicated that in creating the small area boundaries, they had to be divided between districts.

Review of Schedule

Mrs. Carey inquired about setting up the next meetings. Ms. Schuett asked about the agenda for the Commission. Mrs. Carey indicated it was the continued discussion of the plans and which ones would be recommended. Ms. Schuett thought the next important event was the next public hearing. She thinks they have discussed the maps a lot already. Mr. Rheinstein stated that he agreed with Ms. Schuett.

Mrs. Carey inquired about getting more publicity for the hearings. Ms. Tate stated that a press release was sent to all local papers, web-based newspapers, and the Legislative Assistants were e-mailing their community associations. Ms. Jones mentioned that it was on the website and on the cable announcements.

Mrs. Carey stated that the Commission's second Public Hearing is scheduled for July 25, 2011 and she believed a meeting was not needed before the hearing. The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, August 2, 2011 at 9:00 A.M. to discuss the outcome of the public hearing. Friday, August 12th, at 9:00 A.M. and Monday, August 22nd were also scheduled as meeting dates.

Adjournment

On motion of Mr. Rheinstein, seconded by Ms. Schuett, the meeting was adjourned at 4:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Buinickas

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION
Minutes
Public Hearing
July 25, 2011 - 7:00 P.M.
Council Chambers, Arundel Center, Annapolis, MD

Mrs. Carey, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 7:01 P.M. There were approximately 15 persons in the audience. The following Commission members were present:

Jana Carey
Linda Schuett
Dirk Haire
Joshua Greene
Jason Rheinstein (arrived at 7:05 p.m.)

Also present were:

Beth Jones, Administrative Officer
Amy Tate, Legislative Counsel
Lee Longo, Reporter to the Commission

Mrs. Carey explained the purpose of the Commission is to evaluate the composition of the County Council districts and to make recommendations to the County Council for any necessary adjustments to the boundaries of those districts in light of the most recent census. The goal is to ensure that each member of the County Council represents about the same number of people in order to achieve equal representation for all. She said that the Commission starts by determining the average district population after the census and then recommends redrawing the district lines as necessary in order to achieve that average as close as possible in each district. In Maryland, the goal for each district is to be within 10% of the average district population. Mrs. Carey stated that the Commission has to be sure that each district is as compact as possible, that it is made up of adjoining or contiguous territory and that the Commission is required to give due regard to natural boundaries and boundaries of political subdivisions. Mrs. Carey said that County Council Districts 1 and 4 have experienced significant changes in the size of their population since the last census. She said that the population of these districts currently deviates from the average district population by more than 10%, with District 1's population being 9.3% below the average district population and District 4's population being 10.93% above the average district population.

Mrs. Carey said that the most obvious and simple way to equalize the population of those two districts would be to just redraw the boundary between them. She said that the Commission has not just stopped at the simple solution and has also looked at other alternatives. She stated that, based on the first public hearing, the Commission heard about some other issues that additional boundary shifts might help resolve including a request from some South County residents that Crofton be removed from District 7 and that adding other rural areas be added to District 7 to make up for the lost population.

Mrs. Carey said that the Commission is interested in hearing the public's input as to what contiguous rural areas should be added to District 7 to make up for the lost population if the Commission chose to remove Crofton from District 7, as well as any other issues or concerns the public may have.

Mrs. Carey informed the public that each speaker would be given three minutes to speak.

Mr. Greene, Commission Member, asked the members of the Commission if they would agree to give each speaker five minutes to speak given the fact that there were not many people signed up to speak. The Commission Members agreed.

Mr. Greene asked Ms. Tate if the Council were to adopt a redistricting plan that would redistrict a current Council person out of his/her District, could that be legally challenged, and if not, does it matter if that Council person in question is serving his/her consecutive term.

Ms. Tate stated that under two of the scenarios that the Commission provided, Councilman Jamie Benoit (District 4) is the Councilman that would be affected. She said that Mr. Benoit is term limited. As to whether or not it is legal, Ms. Tate said that she would like to get back to the Commission to explain the parameters of doing something like that. She said that as of today, the rest of the Council Members that could return are still within their assigned Districts.

Public Hearing

Charlotte Smutko, Lothian (District 7), Vice-President, Lothian Civic Association, stated that her community is not fairly represented on the County Council because the Councilmen that are elected are always from Crofton. She asked that Crofton be moved out of District 7 because of the unbalance of population between Crofton and South County. She said that because of this South County does not get the representation that is needed to address the issues and concerns of their communities, which are significantly different from Crofton. She stated that the South County residents fight very hard to keep their area rural and find it frustrating to continuously go up against people who want to turn it into a commercial area.

Ken Riggleman, Lothian (District 7), stated that he sent an e-mail letter to the Commission Members and wanted to make sure they received it. Mrs. Carey stated that they did receive it. He said that he had an opportunity to review the maps online that the Commission provided and he said that it appeared Maps 4 or 5 would be most appropriate for District 7. It would take a concentrated populated area of Crofton out of District 7 and put it into District 4. Mr. Riggleman stated that thirty or forty years ago Crofton used to be a rural community. He said that with the demographic changes that have taken place, particularly the growth in population, Crofton no longer fits within the rural/agricultural territory that District 7 was intended to be. He stated that in all fairness to the people in Crofton, it would be better to have them in a district where the interests and concerns are the same as their neighbors and that what Crofton residents want is not necessarily going to be the best thing for residents of Davidsonville, Harwood, Lothian, or Shady Side.

Ms. Schuett asked Mr. Riggleman if he had a sense of the harmony or the unity of interest between those in the Crownsville/Gambrills area in South County.

Mr. Riggleman stated that he did not.

Ms. Schuett said that, to her, South County is south of Route 50. She said that South County is very distinct and has its own character. She said that she is not sure if the Crownsville/Gambrills area works as a substitute for Crofton.

Mr. Riggleman said that he believes it is a better fit than Crofton or Annapolis or any area where there is a high density population or commercial development. He said that South County has historically been a rural/agricultural area.

Steve Grimaud, Crofton, (District 7), President, Crofton Civic Association, stated that he saw the data from the census regarding the drop in one area and the increase in another which would argue in favor of just changing the boundary line between those two Districts and leave the rest of the Districts as they are. Mr. Grimaud said that, when he looked at the other maps that the Commission provided, the solution to the higher population density areas of Crofton is to carve out a very small portion of that area. One map carves out the triangle (tax district) of Crofton only and the other carves out the tax district and a small section across Route 424 north and east of there as part of the transfer into District 4. He stated that this solution has a different impact than simply shifting a suburban area away from what had been predominately been a more rural area. He stated that this would have a political impact on the makeup of District 7 or District 4. He asked if, what was being attempted with moving Crofton into District 4, was to shift a fairly strong Republican component in the Crofton tax district from District 7 to District 4. He asked if the Commission has considered the political implications that it would have in terms of the makeup of the district, as well as the impact it would have on Crofton's influence in the current or new district.

Mrs. Carey stated that this has not been a subject of any discussion at any of the Commission meetings.

Mrs. Schuett said that it was going to be.

Mr. Rheinstein, Commission Member, stated that the maps that have been provided by the Commission are merely sketches of ideas of how lines might be moved that address some of the concerns that have been brought to the Commission's attention. He told Mr. Grimaud that if there are issues that he has or if he would like to see a proposal that does a better job, he would welcome his input.

Mr. Grimaud stated that the more simple solution would be just to look at District 1 and District 4 where the actual problem is and leave the rest of the Districts as they are.

Mr. Greene asked Mr. Grimaud if he was testifying on behalf of the CCA and the tax district. Mr. Grimaud answered that he was speaking as the President of the Crofton Civic Association.

Mr. Rheinstein asked Mr. Grimaud as the President of the Civic Association, if it is the Civic Association's position that the tax district should remain as part of District 7.

Mr. Grimaud said that he was speaking on behalf of the Civic Association; they have not been able to have a meeting to discuss this issue. He said a meeting of the Board of Directors was not held in July and he has not been able to discuss the redistricting issue in detail with other members of the Board, but believes he reflects their views. He stated that he would be happy to get their views and submit them in writing to the Commission. Mr. Grimaud wanted to clarify that he did not want Crofton (the tax district) to be moved to District 4.

Mr. Rheinstein asked Mr. Grimaud if there was any concern among the Crofton Civic Association that there is currently a division in Crofton between District 4 and District 7 with certain communities such as the Post Office, Crofton Village and some other communities north of Johns Hopkins Road being in District 4. He asked Mr. Grimaud that to the extent they are already divided, what would his opinion be on this issue.

Mr. Grimaud stated that the issue of the post office and other building and commercial activities on Route 3 across the boundary from the tax district has never been raised as a problem or concern with regard to their being in District 4. He said that what Crofton seeks to do is to retain their identity by staying in areas or to be in areas that are consistent with their values and community interests.

Senator Ed Reilly, Crofton (District 7), stated that he believes one of the difficulties that the Charter Revision Commission has is discerning whether or not diversity within a District is a key component. He said that, for instance, District 1 starts at Gibson Island and continues to Brooklyn Park. He said that an argument could be made that there is no continuity of education, income, living style, etc. He said that in District 6 from Bay Ridge through Eastport through the City Projects out to Crownsville Road, an argument could be made of differences in education, income, expectations of community services, state services and federal services. He stated that every District has diversity and just because there is diversity within a District doesn't mean it should be significantly changed. He encouraged the Commission to leave Crofton alone.

Mr. Reilly referred to the comment by Mrs. Carey about compactness being an issue. He said that if you took a compacted area of Crofton away from District 7, the current one-third of the County which District 7 represents, it will create a greater portion of diversity which will defeat the compactness issue. He said that he doesn't think that where your elected official is from dictates their ability to represent people in their District. He said that District 1 and District 4 are the problems and the solution for the County is to adjust the boundary line between them. Mr. Reilly said there also has to be some consideration for the political history in each District.

Mr. Rheinstein asked Senator Reilly for his insights as to why a lot of people from South County are asking for Crofton to be shifted to another District.

Mr. Reilly said he believes it is a perception problem. He stated that they want someone from their area and they think that it will automatically give them a more sympathetic attitude.

Mr. Greene asked Mr. Reilly if the situation were reversed wouldn't it work the other way around. Wouldn't someone from a revised district be able to represent Crofton effectively even though they didn't live there?

Mr. Reilly stated that he believes citizens get who they want because the majority rules. He stated that for the past twenty-four years Crofton has had a consistent pattern of electing Republican officials and moving Crofton to another district would probably make them part of a Democratic elected body.

Mr. Greene stated he wasn't discussing politics, but, isn't the logical conclusion to Mr. Reilly's position, that, and to be consistent, couldn't someone in a revised District 4 adequately represent Crofton.

Mr. Reilly agreed.

Charlotte Smutko, Lothian (District 7), stated that South County is not looking for someone from a specific area to represent them. She said South County is not fairly represented when in the same District as Crofton.

Ray Smallwood, Maryland City (District 4), President, Maryland City Civic Association, requested that, if their area is going to be moved, could it be moved into District 1.

Ray Szyperski, Maryland City (District 4), said that he likes Mr. Rheinstein's proposal which groups Maryland City, Jessup and Hanover into District 1.

There was no one else present who wished to speak, and the public hearing was concluded.

Mrs. Carey thanked everyone who attended and said that the schedule of the Commission's meetings is posted on the Anne Arundel County website.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:40 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee L. Longo
Reporter

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

Minutes - Meeting

August 2, 2011 -- 9:00 A.M.

Council Chambers, Arundel Center, Annapolis, MD

The meeting convened at 9:11 A.M. with the following members present:

Jana Carey
Linda Schuett
Joshua Greene
Jason Rheinstein (arrived at 9:29 A.M.)

Commissioner Dirk Haire was absent.

Also present were:

Beth Jones, Administrative Officer
Amy Tate, Legislative Counsel
Margaret Kaii-Ziegler, Demographer, Office of Planning and Zoning

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of June 27, 2011 were approved as amended.

The minutes of July 25, 2011 were approved as amended.

Discussion of Testimony at Second Public Hearing

Mrs. Carey commented that she was surprised to hear some political ramifications in reference to some of the maps that are under consideration. She asked if one of the Commissioners sees or knows of political ramifications to anything that the Commission is doing to please bring it to everyone's attention.

Mrs. Carey stated that she reviewed the maps in regard to the racial make-up of the population under each of the maps. What is currently a black population of 22% in District 1 and 27% in District 4 changes substantially and becomes reversed. She stated that in the Alternative 4 map the make-up of District 1 is 30% and in District 4 it is 23%. She stated that she did not know if the Commission should be concerned about the ramifications of the change.

Mr. Greene stated that he did not have any concerns regarding the proposed numerical shifts, so long as the Commission is not in violation under the Voting Rights Act. He stated that his only concerns becomes if there is a drastic alteration of certain demographics and whether there would be a dilution of the vote of people of color in a particular district due to re-districting measures, which could raise Voting Rights Act concerns.

Mrs. Carey stated that the district that has the largest percentage of minorities changes significantly from District 1 to District 4. She stated that the biggest difference is in Alternative 3 where District 1 is 37% and District 4 becomes 12%.

Ms. Schuett stated that she did not see that as a legal problem.

Mrs. Carey stated that she wanted the Commission to be cognizant of this, but she did not think it would be a problem either.

Review and Consideration of any further changes to Proposed Maps and Scenarios

Mrs. Carey asked if the Commission members needed to look at further maps or are they ready to come to a decision on their recommendation.

Ms. Schuett stated that she would like to go back to the Simple Adjustment Map and Simple Adjustment No. 1 and review the ramifications of each.

Ms. Kaii-Ziegler reviewed the adjustments made to each of the maps and what the goals were for each.

Mrs. Carey stated that with the Simple Adjustment the largest deviation from the average district population is 2.66%, which is well under 5% and under Adjustment 1 the biggest deviation is .75%. She questioned whether it would be worth making the additional changes to the districts.

Ms. Schuett stated she would be ready to move towards a vote regarding their final report. She stated that she was surprised by the testimony regarding political changes that result from some of the proposed maps. In that light, she does not wish to upset the balance of any district, therefore she is moving towards Simple Adjustment.

Mr. Greene stated that he was not sure they were ready to move on to anything since two Commissioners were absent. (Commissioner Rheinstein arrived at the meeting subsequent to this statement.) He concurred that the Simple Adjustment Maps certainly address what the Commission needs to accomplish. He feels it is more straight forward as it relates to the imbalance in two districts and presents the County Council with a less politically controversial recommendation. He stated that, in his estimation, it is the County Council that needs to make a political calculation and not the Commission. He wanted to make sure that the Commission addresses testimony that was received from south county and other residents that came out to the public hearings. He feels it is up to the political body, the County Council, to make the ultimate decision on the maps and the decisions presented to them.

Ms. Schuett stated that she agreed with Mr. Greene's statement regarding the County Council being the body that should address political issues in relationship to redistricting.

Mr. Greene stated that they need to take the political ramifications into consideration along with the views expressed by citizens of the County. He stated that he would advocate that the Commission should present at least one other map that takes into consideration views that the Commission has heard regarding redistricting.

Ms. Schuett stated that she has previously voiced her own opinion that south county is different, and to the extent possible, they should have its own district. She stated that the

changes needed to make that true are not ones she is willing to sign onto. She stated that she was persuaded by the public hearing testimony that south county is not the only place within the districts that does not share complete affinity with all the other communities within its district. She stated that part of Crownsville is in with the Broadneck peninsula and they are as different as night and day. She indicated that while south county residents have been more vocal, she is not sure they are expressing a concern that isn't shared by the residents of other districts.

Mrs. Carey stated that she drove through south county on Saturday. She was surprised to see that there were not as many large farms as she thought there would be. She indicated that she thought that some farms have sold off property and you now see large homes across from the farms. She indicated it seemed more rural than Crofton, but not as rural as what she thought she would find. She thought it was changing closer to upscale suburban. She stated that she realizes that they have some different concerns than some of the rest of the County, but she agrees that they are not so different that it would be worth making the kinds of changes required to confine them to one district.

Mr. Greene pointed out that residents in other parts of the county did not come and testify. He stated that the current discussion taking place between the Commissioners regarding what is or what is not "rural" for south county is not relevant as it relates to what the Commission needs to proffer in its considered determination to the Council. The Commission has to go on the record presented to them, the testimony presented to them, and citizens making their voices heard. Mr. Greene further stated that if the Commission begins to consider anecdotal evidence, or the concerns of residents from other parts of the County who did not participate or offer testimony, and may have similar concerns, that the Commission will then attempt to consider many variables not on the record and the Commission will be going around in circles.

Mrs. Carey stated that she assumed Mr. Greene also agreed with the statement that the Simple Alternative Map is something that should be recommended to the Council. He stated that he supported that assumption. Mrs. Carey said she thought he also said that the Commission should also proffer to the Council an alternative that they could consider which would deal with the concerns of the residents of south county. Mr. Greene pointed out that the Commission must address the concerns of citizens that testified in front of the Commission. He then went on to explain that if the Commission makes the determination that we are not proffering an alternative map that takes into the consideration the testimony before the Commission because in its opinion it would upset the political balance in one area or another would be to ignore the testimony before the Commission and would substitute a political decision that the Council should make. He stated he does not see that as their role. It is the role of the County Council, if they so wish to look at the political ramifications.

Mrs. Carey stated that her understanding is that the Commission is supposed to make a recommendation to the County Council. She asked Ms. Tate if they should recommend the Simple Adjustment Map and then offer an alternative map that addresses the concerns of south county. She also inquired if they should just make two recommendations and if they would be allowed to make two recommendations.

Ms. Tate stated that according to the resolution that appointed them they were to make recommendations on redistricting. In the past there has been one map proffered to the Council. That does not necessarily mean that was the map that was accepted. She suggested that they might want to place more weight on one with an explanation. She summarized that Ms. Shuett is suggesting that politically it is preferred to do less and Mr. Greene is stating that they can't ignore the citizens who came out about south county. She recommended that the Commission present one that they prefer, but offer the second as another option they have reviewed.

Mrs. Carey asked Mr. Greene if he could accept the Commission making one recommendation and offering the other as an alternative. Mr. Greene stated he could.

Ms. Schuett stated that Charter Amendments were to be part of the second part of what the Commission looks at, but they have not discussed the potential for nine districts. Ms. Tate informed her that was part of the Resolution introduced last night as one of the things the Council wanted them to review. Ms. Schuett was not sure she would agree with the Commission introducing a map that addresses some of the concerns of south county without having discussed what the districts would look like if there were nine districts. Mrs. Carey stated the Resolution asked that they examine the benefits of expanding the number of districts from seven to nine. It doesn't ask that they draw a map to show nine districts.

Ms. Schuett inquired if they proposed nine districts rather than seven, and the County Council approved the concept, could they also approve a map to include with the Charter Amendment that would go on the ballot. She asked what the earliest time at which any such amendment, if adopted, would be in effect. Ms. Tate informed her that the question would be finalized by August, if it passes. During the mid-term election it would be voted on. If it comes back yes, make it nine districts, then the Council would be required to come up with the map before the next election. Ms. Schuett inquired if the Council could draft the map along with the resolution recommending that it go to the voters. Ms. Tate stated that she thought they could, but she would not recommend doing that because it is just a hypothetical at that point. This exercise would have to be done in time for the next primary and allow time for candidates to run in the districts. The earliest election would be the 2014 election.

Mr. Rheinstein stated that he was not moved by the reasoning given by Senator Reilly regarding south county. He feels that the residents of south county that came to the meetings did not think that their representative represented their issues very well. He did observe that the only passion on this issue is to create a rural district to serve the citizens of south county. He stated that he feels some obligation to put forth a plan to the Council that has some sort of recommendation that means selecting between all the plans where that is possible. He suggested they offer the Simple Adjustment, changing things as little as possible, and an alternative that would best address everything the Commission heard from. The Council would make the final decision. Mr. Rheinstein suggested they have equal weight in recommendation from the Commission.

Mrs. Carey informed Mr. Rheinstein that Ms. Schuett and Mr. Greene were in favor of putting forth the Simple Adjustment Map as their recommendation. She also agreed

with this. She stated that Mr. Greene feels strongly that the Commission add another possibility that addresses the south county issues.

Mr. Rheinstein stated that his suggestion would be that the Commission offer the Simple Adjustment and an alternative that addresses the needs for south county if the Council decided to consider them. He feels the Simple Adjustment changes things the least. He stated that he would not make a recommendation one way or the other as to which one the Council should pass. Mrs. Carey informed him that the Commission was asked to make a recommendation. Mr. Rheinstein stated that his recommendation would be to offer the Simple Adjustment and then the alternative that addresses what the Commission has heard. He feels that if the Commission gives more weight to the Simple Adjustment they would be ignoring the citizens that came in to testify.

Ms. Schuett stated that she did not feel they would be ignoring the citizens that came in. The Commission would be giving an alternative second choice to the Council. The Council appointed the Commission to make a recommendation and that they should make a recommendation with perhaps other alternatives. Ms. Schuett stated she feels it is important that they give one recommendation as their number one choice.

Ms. Schuett made a motion that the Commission make one recommendation to the Council. Mr. Greene and Mr. Rheinstein stated that they objected. Mrs. Carey inquired as to the objection. Mr. Greene stated that he objected to the motion due to the fact they did not have all the Commissioners present. He felt that the entire Commission should be there to hear any motions.

Ms. Schuett inquired if the Commission knew that Mr. Haire would not be present and was informed they did. Ms. Schuett suggested that they not have any more meetings unless everyone can be present.

Mr. Rheinstein inquired what the reasoning would be for the Commission to recommend the Simple Adjustment Map. Mr. Greene stated that he could envision a final report to the Council with the recommendation of the Charter Review Commission being two or more alternative approaches. He felt that they could do this with an executive summary that addresses everyone's concerns.

Mr. Rheinstein stated that unless the Council wants to create a rural district then maybe the Simple Adjustment is the best one. Mrs. Carey stated that the Commission should recommend the Simple Adjustment and say that the issues raised by south county could be addressed by the alternative.

Mr. Greene summarized that he thought the other Commissioners understood him to say the recommendation of the Commission is the Simple Adjustment Map and that is not what he is saying. He is saying that the recommendation of the Commission is the final report. The recommendation can have two alternatives. It would then be up to the Council to make a decision on the Commissions proffer as to which map they adopt. The Commission could offer two alternatives to address the redistricting requirements of the County, present the report, and allow the Council to deliberate and pass one of the maps.

Ms. Tate stated that Section 1203 of the Charter stated that the Council County shall appoint by resolution a Charter Revision Commission for the purpose of making a comprehensive study of the County Government and updating of its Charter, when necessary including the matter of the revision of Councilmanic Districts of the County. The Commission shall be composed of five representative citizens of the County who shall report to the Council their findings and recommendations, plural, together with drafts of any recommended revisions of the Charter within twelve months after their appointment.

Ms. Tate stated that it does say recommendations, plural. The Council has been advised that they may adopt any and all of the Commissions recommendations or ignore them completely. She stated that she thinks the Commission has worked earnestly to come up with the best plans. The previous Commissions plan indicated they respectfully submitted the plan as the preferred plan because they felt it achieved broad agreement on several districts and with a minimum of disruption.

Ms. Schuett felt there was no need to discuss the matter any further since they needed all the Commissioners present to vote on issues. She personally prefers one map over another, so it would be her vote to recommend one map. She feels that everyone is saying the say thing, but they need everyone present to proceed.

Discussion of Schedule for Future Meetings

Ms. Tate inquired if everyone would be present for the next meeting. She has a concern regarding getting started on the report since there will be a significant amount of narrative attached with recommending the map or maps.

Mrs. Carey asked everyone to check to see if they would be available at the next scheduled meeting on August 12th. Mr. Rheinstein stated he would be out of town on August 12th. The meeting on August 12th was cancelled.

Ms. Schuett inquired about the meeting set up for August 22nd. Mrs. Carey inquired if that would get too close to Ms. Tate's deadline. Ms. Tate stated that if they were affirmed with their decision it should be fine.

Discussion on Recommendations

Mrs. Carey stated that she thought they were in agreement that they should recommend the Simple Adjustment Map and also put another alternative. Ms. Schuett stated that she disagreed with that statement. She thought some wanted to say Alternative Adjustment Map is what they are recommending, and if you don't like that, here is another alternative. Others are stating the recommendation should be two maps that we believe are the best amongst the maps that were considered.

Mr. Greene stated that he did not want to characterize the maps. He wants the maps to speak for themselves. He feels that they should wait for Commissioner Haire to hold any votes on the maps.

Mr. Rheinstein agreed that two maps should be presented in the report. He recommends writing an extensive narrative that would give the Council a basis for selecting between the two maps.

Mrs. Carey inquired of Ms. Tate if it would be appropriate to ask the Council what their expectations are. Ms. Schuett, Mr. Greene and Mr. Rheinstein objected to this.

Mrs. Carey thought the Commission should turn attention to the selection of maps to be included in the report. Ms. Schuett stated she thought that exercise would be meaningless since they would not have the input of Mr. Haire.

Mr. Greene stated that he asked Ms. Tate about redistricting in regards to current Council members. Some of the maps proposed would impact Council members. Ms. Tate stated that two of the maps do remove the current Councilman for District 4 from his district, but he is term limited. The residency of the incumbent is something that may be considered. It is not a factor that should be weighted any more than any other factor. Maryland says it is permissible to consider it, but you don't have to. She advised that they would not want to place two incumbents in the same district.

Mr. Rheinstein stated that right now there would only be one Councilman that would be removed from his current district. He also stated that he hates the fact that the current map splits the Severn River into three different Council districts when all of the other rivers and tributaries in the county are, at most, in two. He feels that people who live in waterfront communities have unique interest in regards to zoning, building, etc.

Ms. Schuett inquired if the timing would be the same. That the election at which the new districts would apply is the same election in which Mr. Benoit, District 4, cannot run. Ms. Tate informed her that was correct. Ms. Schuett stated then none of the maps would eliminate Mr. Benoit from his district since he can no longer run. Ms. Tate stated that was also correct.

Mr. Rheinstein inquired if the maps would become effective in 2014 or next fall. Ms. Tate informed him that they were drawing Councilmanic districts and it would not come into play until 2014 when there is an election for the Council. There is a request to have them done so that the precinct lines can be drawn in tandem with the other redistricting that is going on in the State.

Mr. Rheinstein inquired if a new map would have anything to do with current Councilmanic districts and therefore unseat Mr. Benoit. Ms. Tate informed him that would not be the case. It would only come into play for the 2014 cycle.

Ms. Tate informed the Commission that there was a residency requirement to run in a particular district. She recommended that the Commission make sure they adopt a map in the time frame that would allow 12 months residency. She will make this recommendation to the Council also.

Mrs. Carey stated that the Commission needed to do two things. First, they have to decide if they are going to recommend two maps. Second, of the maps that deal with

south county, which do they want to recommend.

Ms. Schuett stated that they should not discuss the matters at this meeting.

Mr. Rheinstein stated that with respect to the alternative maps, he felt they would need an adjustment with regard to the Crofton area and the Severna Park area. He gave a brief overview of what he thought his adjustments to the various maps would include.

Mrs. Carey stated that they would meet again on August 22nd if all could be present.

Adjournment

On motion of Mr. Rheinstein, seconded by Ms. Schuett, the meeting was adjourned at 10:22 A. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Buinickas

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION
Minutes - Meeting
August 22, 2011 – 9:00 A.M.
Council Chambers, Arundel Center, Annapolis, MD

The meeting convened at 9:08 A.M. with the following members present:

Jana Carey
Joshua Greene
Dirk Haire
Jason Rheinstein
Linda Schuett

Also present were:

Beth Jones, Administrative Officer
Amy Tate, Legislative Counsel
Margaret Kaii-Ziegler, Demographer, Office of Planning and Zoning
Carol Sanner, Office of Planning and Zoning
Patric Henright, Gambrills

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of August 2, 2011 were approved with corrections.

Review by County Staff of Issues and Advantages Presented by each of the Redistricting Maps currently under consideration

Mrs. Carey stated that at the last meeting the Commission was at the point of deciding which map or maps to present to the County Council. She asked Ms. Kaii-Ziegler to review any of the maps that will be recommended to be included in the report.

Review and Consideration of any further changes to Proposed Maps and Scenarios

Mrs. Carey stated that she thinks most are in agreement that the Simple Solution Map should be submitted. Some other Commissioners have indicated that they would like to include at least one other map, but she is not sure which map is being considered. Mrs. Carey inquired if there was another map that the Commission should be considering.

Mr. Greene indicated that Proposed Alternative 5 (Jason 2 Revised) was one that he thought they were considering.

Mr. Haire stated he was comfortable with Maps 1, 4 or 5. He stated that he did not think it was important to include the Simple Adjustment Map due to the fact that he doesn't think it makes sense. He stated that he would take Map 4 off the board for discussion to streamline the process.

Ms. Schuett asked Ms. Kaii-Ziegler to give her professional assessment of the differences between Maps 4 and 5 and the advantages and disadvantages of each.

Ms. Kaii-Ziegler stated the biggest difference between Maps 4 and 5 is the location of

District 1 and District 4. District 1 would lose about 40% of its current area. The majority of District 2 would now be where District 1 used to be. District 1 and District 2 are significantly switched around.

Mr. Rheinstein asked whether, in Proposed Alternative 4, the alignment of Brooklyn Park, Linthicum, Glen Burnie, Ferndale and the airport into District 2 brings more communities of interest together or separates them.

Ms. Kaii-Ziegler stated that in one alternative you are taking out half of the people in one district and putting them in a different district. In one of the other maps there is more continuity in some of the communities in the district now. Ms. Kaii-Ziegler indicated that the only issue with both maps is that she had to take out half of the residential area in Ft. Meade from one of the districts. Ft. Meade would be split into two districts.

Ms. Schuett inquired if Map 5 was better in terms of keeping communities together. Ms. Kaii-Ziegler stated that she tried to keep communities together and minimize the number that switched districts. She went on to explain the differences in Maps 4 and 5 in this regard.

Mr. Rheinstein inquired if the populations balanced in the different maps. Ms. Kaii-Ziegler stated that the anticipated growth for the future is slated for current Districts 1, 2 and 4. There was discussion regarding the differences in population in the different scenarios.

Mrs. Carey inquired if there was a motion for submission of maps to the County Council. On motion of Mr. Greene, seconded by Ms. Schuett, the Commission voted to include Map 5 and the Simple Adjustment Map as the proffer to the County Council. Mr. Greene, Ms. Schuett and Ms. Carey voted in the affirmative on the motion with Mr. Haire and Mr. Rheinstein voted against the motion.

Ms. Schuett stated that she would like to get consensus among the five Commissioners to submit the maps. She inquired about suggestions from the Commission on the maps. She indicated that she felt that Mr. Haire did not want to include the Simple Adjustment Map at all. Mr. Haire stated that assessment was correct. Mr. Rheinstein stated that it would depend on how the Commission presents the discussion to the County Council. Mr. Rheinstein would rather have Proposed Alternative 5 than the Simple Adjustment due to the fact he feels it addresses the concerns of residents who have come before the Commission.

Ms. Schuett stated that she originally believed it was the Commission's job to give one recommendation to the County Council. Ms. Schuett indicated that she thought it would be all right to submit both maps without recommending one over the other.

Mrs. Carey stated that her understanding was that the Commission was recommending both of the maps on an equal basis. Mrs. Carey recommended that the Commission describe the advantages and disadvantages or attributes of each of the maps without elevating the status of one over the other. There was continued discussion regarding the recommendation.

On motion of Ms. Schuett, seconded by Mr. Haire, the Commission voted to submit to the County Council the Simple Adjustment Map and Map 5 with descriptions of the proposals and the advantages or problems that each of them raise without giving a recommendation as to which one they should adopt. The vote was unanimous in favor of the motion.

Mrs. Carey asked if the Commission was ready to discuss what they wanted to say about each of the maps recommended for submission. Mr. Rheinstein indicated that he thought the Commission needed a draft of the proposal before they could make comments. Mrs. Carey suggested that the Commission present to the County Council a discussion of each of the maps. There was discussion regarding the maps and how they will be presented.

Ms. Tate handed out a working draft of the final report. Ms. Schuett inquired if the Commission could do a conference call to review the draft and make final comments. Mrs. Carey suggested that the Commission review the draft and then forward comments to Ms. Tate. She would then incorporate the recommendations and present another draft for their review. The Commission would then place the conference call to review again. The conference call was set for Friday, August 26, 2011 at 9:00 a.m.

Discussion of County Council Resolution No. 41-11 and how to approach the issues raised therein, including whether to establish Commission subcommittees to do an initial examination of and report to the full Commission on some of the issues, with full Commission then reviewing and doing further investigation and review as believed appropriate

Mrs. Carey stated that Resolution No. 44-11 lists the issues that the County Council wanted the Commission to address. She is sending a letter to the various department heads seeking input as to what they would like to see addressed in terms of revisions to the Charter. Mrs. Carey indicated that she thought the Commission should then schedule meetings to discuss their recommendations.

Mrs. Carey stated that she grouped the Charter review issues into five groups. She indicated that the Commission could form sub-groups to work on these issues. They would then come back with a recommendation to be discussed by the Commission.

Mr. Greene inquired what was expected of the Commission in terms of a time line. He also inquired if the Commission was required to review each of the issues presented in the resolution. Ms. Tate stated they need to at least touch on each issue. She informed them they had until next spring to get through what is required of them. They are commissioned to serve for one year and were appointed in April. There was continued discussion on the timeframe and the process to get questions on the ballot.

Ms. Schuett asked Ms. Tate to prepare a package of information that relates to each of the questions asked by the Council. She requested that it include information about what other counties have in their Charters.

Mrs. Carey inquired about the Wicomico County case regarding binding arbitration. Ms. Tate informed her that she thought it stopped at the Court of Special Appeals

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decision. Ms. Tate informed the Commission that the county's provision is almost identical to the Wicomico County provision.

Mr. Rheinstein asked Ms. Tate to include whether or not any of the issues were proposed before, when introduced if not originally in the Charter, and what Charter Amendment questions that were placed on the ballot. Mr. Rheinstein asked Ms. Tate to include any failed Charter Amendment questions that were on the ballots.

Mr. Greene inquired if there was a time frame for the department heads to respond to the inquiry being sent to them. Ms. Tate informed him a deadline was not included in the proposed letter. Mr. Greene recommended that they include a date to receive the information. He recommended that the Commission compile data gathered before they start into consideration of amendments.

Mrs. Carey stated that after the department heads respond and Ms. Tate presents them with the information requested then the Commission should schedule a meeting to review the data. The Commission decided to put a deadline of 60 days for the department heads to respond to the inquiry. Ms. Tate recommended the Commission plan on meeting with the department heads for follow-up questions in early 2012. She recommended that the Commission try to have their work done and presented to the Council by the second meeting in April.

Ms. Schuett inquired if the Commission would actually die one year from the date they were appointed. Ms. Tate stated she thought they would be within the timeframe if they presented at the second meeting in April. There was some discussion about receiving information from the departments and what the Administration would like them to review.

Mrs. Carey asked Ms. Tate what the Commission could review while waiting for information from the department heads. Mrs. Carey inquired of the Commission if they would like to start to address some of the issues or wait to proceed further. Ms. Schuett stated she would like to wait to decide which alternative to choose until they have the package together that relates to the issues. Once this information is received the Commission could decide on a path to take. Ms. Tate stated that she could get the information requested to the Commission by the next meeting.

Ms. Schuett stated that she envisioned that the Commission would get the report on the redistricting finished first, have a conference call after the second draft to discuss any changes. At this point she would like to have some of the information requested of Ms. Tate and discuss the next step, including the scheduling of any meeting to talk about the information gathered. This agenda was accepted by the Commission.

Ms. Schuett summarized the agenda as having a conference call to discuss any proposed changes the Commission has to the second draft, then discuss what the next steps are and when. There was discussion on when the second draft would be available and when Ms. Tate could get any other information to them.

The Commission set Friday, October 28, 2011 at 9:00 A.M. for their next meeting.

Adjournment

On motion of Mr. Rheinstein, seconded by Mr. Greene, the meeting was adjourned at 10:20 A. M.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Buinickas

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

Minutes - Meeting #10

August 26, 2011 - 9:00 A.M.

Conference Call – County Council Conference Room
Arundel Center, Annapolis, MD

The meeting convened at 9:05 A.M. by conference call with the following members present:

Jana Carey
Linda Schuett
Joshua Greene
Jason Rheinsein (9:08 a.m.)
Dirk Haire (9:16 a.m.)

Also present were:

Beth Jones, Administrative Officer
Amy Tate, Legislative Counsel
Lee Longo, Reporter to the Commission
Margaret Kaii-Ziegler, Demographer, Office of Planning and Zoning

Approval of Minutes

The revised minutes of July 12, 2011 and the minutes of August 22, 2011 were approved as presented.

Discussion of Draft of Final Redistricting Report and Proposed Alternate Map 5

Mrs. Carey stated that Carole Sanner, Planning & Zoning, sent an e-mail on August 25th asking whether the final redistricting report, on page 2, accurately states the degree to which Districts 1 and 4 are outside the population parameters. In response to Ms. Sanner's inquiry, Ms. Schuett suggested that a period be inserted after the word "decade", that the next sentence be eliminated, and that the following sentence be inserted in its place: "Both District 1 and District 4 exceed the 5% allowable deviation. The Commissioners unanimously agreed to the change of wording to clarify the deviation.

Mrs. Carey referred to Proposed Alternative Map 5 and the changes that Mr. Rheinsein requested of Ms. Ziegler after the last meeting on August 22nd, in which the Commission had already adopted two maps to put in the final redistricting report. She said that it is her understanding that Mr. Rheinsein would like the Revised Map 5 to be considered by the Commission. Mrs. Carey stated that she has not had an opportunity to see the map with the changes due to some technical difficulties of trying to open the file on her computer.

Mr. Rheinsein stated that his concerns were the map line adjustments that appeared on the map.

Ms. Ziegler said that the issues that Mr. Rheinstein was concerned about were some small slivers in the boundary of Alternative Map 5 and that she had corrected them. She stated that she found some similar slivers on the simple adjustment map also. Ms. Ziegler said that these slivers are not easily visible and exist because the Census has created polygons (blocks) in the spaces where major transportation arterials cross other roads and especially where there are on and off ramps. She explained that when putting the District boundaries together, the software looks for non-contiguous districts, but these slivers are contiguous with the correct District. She said that these polygons do not affect the population or the configuration of the District itself. She stated that these do not show up on the maps that are included in the report.

Mrs. Carey asked Ms. Ziegler if these slivers are in all of the maps that the Commission has discussed and considered.

Ms. Ziegler said that it is possible, but she has not had the opportunity too look at all of the maps, only the Proposed Alternative Map 5 and the Simple Adjustment Map.

Mrs. Carey asked if a footnote should be included in the report that describes the problem, explain that it does not affect the population or the configuration of the District, and state that any map that is adopted by the County Council will have to be refined to take care of this technical issue.

Ms. Ziegler responded by saying she did not think it was necessary. She said the polygons are not visible and they were not noted in any of the descriptions. She said that she might have a concern if the map were on the website for the public to see,, but the maps that are included in the report do not show the "slivers."

Mr. Rheinstein asked if there would be a legal issue if the County Council were to adopt Proposed Alternative Map 5, and the legal boundaries for the map were not shown in the actual illustration of the map itself, and the technical description of the boundary did not mention the polygons.

Ms. Ziegler said that Ms. Tate could probably answer that question but that she didn't think there was an issue because the descriptions she had created were more detailed than in the 2001 report.

Mr. Rheinstein said that he had not had an opportunity to read the technical description prior to contacting Ms. Ziegler. He stated that if the legal description is correct, then he did not have a concern of what the actual map looks like.

Ms. Tate stated that the map is a representation of the legal description and the map itself does not have any significance if the legal description is not included. She said that no map is ever submitted without a legal description.

Mrs. Carey said that at the last meeting there the Commission had agreed to include the Proposed Alternative Map 5 and Simple Adjustment Map in the final redistricting report to the County Council. She stated that the agreement stands unless the Commission wanted to vote on another map.

Ms. Ziegler stated that she found an error on the Simple Adjustment Map when she was doing the descriptions of the Districts. She noticed that Dobbins Island and Little Dobbins Island were in District 5 and not in District 3. She stated that they are currently in District 3 and should be in District 3. She asked the Commission for an amendment to the previously adopted Simple Adjustment Map.

On motion of Mr. Rheinstein, seconded by Ms. Schuett, the Charter Revision Commission adopted to revise the Simple Adjustment Map by moving Dobbins Island and Little Dobbins Island back in District 3, by the following roll call vote:

Aye – Mr. Rheinstein, Mr. Greene, Ms. Schuett, Mr. Haire
Nay – None

Mr. Rheinstein asked if the Commission should discuss in the report a possible reason for at least part of the unbalanced population between District 1 and District 4, with District 1 being 10% under and District 4 being 10% over the District average. He said that he believes the deviation has to do with the non-resident prison inmate population and not just people moving into the County. He asked if a sentence should be added in the report (under Redistricting Anne Arundel County in 2011), to describe the number of people moved out of District 1 as a result of the “No Representation Without Population Act” , in order to eliminate the possibility that people reading the report might wrongly conclude that the population changes in Districts 1 and 4 were due to a large number of moving voluntarily from District 1 to another District. He said that the population in District 1 declined in part because the 2001 Census report had included in District 1 the population of the prisons that are located in District 1 and the subsequent law (“No Representation Without Population Act”) removed them from the District’s population under the Census.

Ms. Ziegler said that is not necessarily the reason the growth has dropped in District 1, because there has been growth in that area. The change has to do with where the growth has occurred in the last ten years throughout the County.

Mr. Rheinstein asked Ms. Ziegler whether District 1 was impacted the most because of that law? He said that District 1 has probably grown in the last ten years, not receded, but based on the the Census figures it appears as if it has had a receding population.

Ms. Ziegler said the deviation is based on the total. She stated that even before there was an adjustment for the prison population, there was still a problem in District 1.

Mr. Greene stated that the report does allude to the population deviation by the underlying legislation and why the prison population was taken out of the count.

Ms. Schuett said that if it can be easily determined as to the approximate number of people that were excluded from District 1 as a result of the legislation, she did not object to adding that information in the report.

Ms. Tate said that it is about 3900 inmates based on the non-adjusted 2010 Census numbers for District 1.

After further discussion the Charter Revision Commission agreed to add the following two sentences on Page 2, under the sub-heading, "Redistricting Anne Arundel County in 2011", after the last sentence: "The required population adjustment resulted in exclusion of approximately 3,900 people from District 1. No other Districts in Anne Arundel County had a significant change due to the adjustments made under the "No Representation Without Population Act.""; by the following roll call vote:

Aye – Ms. Schuett, Mr. Haire, Mr. Rheinstein
Nay – Mr. Greene

Mrs. Carey asked if there were any other changes to the text in the draft of the final redistricting report.

Ms. Schuett said that the following changes should be made:

Page 2 – last paragraph, line 5, after "deviation", remove "for" and replace with "from";

Page 3 – Under "Description of the Simple Adjustment Plan", fully justify last paragraph;

Page 4 – Under "District 1", on page 5, line 1, after "County" add a period; delete "with an", replace with "Changes include the"; delete "land including"; line 4, add a period after "tracks";

Page 5 – Under "District 6", on page 6, line 2, after "Harbor" add "and to include the northern area of Crownsville east of Generals Highway";

Page 5 – fully justify last paragraph;

There was discussion regarding the Appendices and it was decided that Appendix A would include the Simple Adjustment Map, the boundary description and the population chart; Appendix B would include the Proposed Alternative 5 Map, the boundary description and the population chart, and Appendix C would include the minutes.

Mr. Rheinstein suggested that a reference be made somewhere in the report, that all of the maps that were considered by the Commission were included in the Interim Report.

There were no further changes to the draft report.

On motion of Ms. Schuett, seconded by Mr. Rheinstein, the Charter Revision Commission voted to adopt the draft with the changes, by the following roll call vote:

Aye – Ms. Schuett, Mr. Rheinstein, Mr. Haire, Mr. Greene
Nay - None

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:02 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Lee L. Longo
Reporter

ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

Simple Adjustment

