

**REDISTRICTING COMMISSION
OF CECIL COUNTY**

MINUTES

July 8, 2013

PRESENT: Commission members: Anna Maria Buehler, Phil Sneeringer, Gerry Carpenter, Diane Carabetta, Jerry Roope, Norman Wilson, Betty Elliason, Wyatt Wallace, Pamela Howard, Bob Porter, and Chairman Ewing McDowell; Jim Massey, Council Manager; David Black, Dept of Planning & Zoning; and Laura Walters, Acting Election Director.

VISITOR: Chris Carpenter

Chairman McDowell called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The minutes were reviewed and amended to add "Mr. Porter asked that comments and questions from visitors be held until the end of the meeting".

Mr. Porter made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, which was seconded by Wyatt Wallace and approve unanimously.

Chairman McDowell asked Commission Members if they had any questions for David Black. There were no questions. Mr. Black stated that Option 3, as presented, adheres to current precinct boundaries.

Chairman McDowell asked Commission Members if they had any questions for Ms. Carabetta's options that she presented at the last meeting. Ms. Carabetta reviewed options "ddc" and "jjc".

Chairman McDowell introduced Laura Walters, Acting Election Director, who brought a legislative district map for the Commission Members to review.

Chairman McDowell asked if there were any other proposals to be considered. None were given at this time.

Mr. Wilson made a motion to approve of Option #3 for the councilmanic redistricting plan, which was seconded by Ms. Howard. The motion failed by a vote of 5 to 5.

Ms. Carabetta made a motion to approve Option #dd1 for the councilmanic redistricting plan, which was seconded by Mr. Sneeringer. The motion failed by a vote of 3 to 6.

Chairman McDowell asked Mr. Massey to clarify the redistricting process if the Council does not approve of the Commission's recommended plan.

Mr. Porter made a motion to approve Option #2 for the councilmanic redistricting plan, which was seconded by Mr. Wilson. The motion failed by a vote of 1 to 6.

After discussion, Mr. Black was asked to look at alternatives to Option #3 that could equalize the population in each councilmanic district while preserving the similar demographics. Mr. Black agreed to send copies of his proposal to members prior to the meeting.

At the request of several members, the next meeting of the Redistricting Commission was rescheduled from Monday, July 22 to Tuesday, July 23, beginning at 7:00 p.m. in the Perryville Room at the County Administration Building.

Respectfully submitted,

James Massey

Approved as presented on July 23, 2013