2020 Trumbull Redistricting Committee
Saturday, May 23, 2020, 10:00 AM
Zoom on-line meeting
AGENDA

Join the meeting online:
https://zoom.us/j/97280565306?pwd=UEM4dEVdGRxMnhVbWF5Mzl4UHEzQT09
Webinar ID: 972 8056 5306
Password: 127306
Join by telephone: (301) 715-8592 / Webinar ID: 972 8056 5306

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
4. Public Comment
5. Approval of minutes of the May 9, 2020 meeting
6. Discuss, review and approve district maps, borders, property descriptions
7. Discuss and begin work on report
8. Set next meeting date
9. Old Business
10. New Business
11. Adjournment
The 2020 Trumbull Redistricting Committee meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Chairperson Laurel Anderson.

Members present: Laurel Anderson  
Tom Kelly  
Kevin Shively  
Tony Scinto

Also present: First Selectman Vicki Tesoro  
Town Attorney Daniel Schopick  
Kathleen McGannon  
Cindy Katske  
Steve Earley  
Stephen Lemoine

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Minutes

Tom Kelly moved, and Kevin Shively seconded, that the Minutes of the April 16, 2020, Redistricting Committee meeting be approved as submitted; the vote in favor was 3-0, with Laurel Anderson, Tom Kelly and Kevin Shively in favor and Tony Scinto abstaining.

New Deadline for Report to Town Council

Laurel Anderson reported that the Town Council has passed a resolution extending the Committee’s reporting deadline to July 9, 2020.

Discuss and Review Maps, Borders, Property Descriptions and Next Steps

Laurel Anderson noted that the Committee now has Richard White’s updated computer-printed seven-district map with district borders as originally proposed in 2012, and an amended list of property boundaries that go with the map. In response to a question from Laurel Anderson, Steve Earley told the Committee that the MS Word document that was submitted with today’s
agenda contained all of the formerly submitted word-processed property descriptions as modified by, and now therefore including, all the previously-submitted handwritten modifications.

Tony Scinto suggested that a map that also showed state assembly house of representative districts would be helpful.

There was extensive discussion of whether the current map and boundary list met concerns about improving voter turnout, reducing voters' driving times to the polls, and reducing voters' feelings of being inconvenienced by having fewer polling places. Laurel Anderson reminded the Committee members that no matter what the underlying issues may have been, the primary directive that Town Council has given the Committee is to draw districts that have equal population and therefore equal Town Council representation, no matter how many districts the Committee might choose to have, regardless of the effect on turnout in any given district.

Tony Scinto pointed out that there were gaps in the property descriptions between Mulberry and Elliott, and between West Mischa and West Lake roads. At Laurel Anderson’s request, the Committee then went through the property boundary descriptions one by one.

In regard to the proposed District 1, no one on the Committee had any changes to suggest.

In regard to the proposed District 2, Tony Scinto pointed out that there was a problem with the Northerly description because West Mischa Road and West Lake Road do not intersect. Steve Earley suggested that the boundary line could either run along Pinewood Lake or skirt the properties along the Lake’s shore, but it was up to the Committee to choose. Kevin Shively said that running the boundary along the Lake shore might put a few houses into proposed District 7; Vicki Tesoro, Laurel Anderson, and Kevin Shively reminded the Committee that whichever line they choose, they cannot break up Census blocks. Kevin Shively noted that keeping the Census block within the District 2 loop would preserve the population totals for both districts, but if the alternative were chosen the houses on West Lake, East Lake, Palmer, and Southgate would go into District 7. It was the unanimous sense of the meeting that part of the District 2 boundary description could read: “the border continues from the end of West Mischa Road, follows the edge of Pinewood Lake until it meets West Lake Road...” and proceed from there as already written.

In response to questions from Laurel Anderson and Kevin Shively, requesting clarification that the Committee’s job was to write the descriptions without breaking up Census blocks, and whether the descriptions could reference the Census blocks by number, Steve Earley said that his only job was to take the descriptions, reproduce the text, and derive map lines from that, and that the text could reference Census blocks and already does so where the description parallels Reservoir Avenue. Tony Scinto reminded the Committee that the verbal descriptions of the boundaries will be what governs, and that the maps are simply tools.

Steve Earley pointed out that further on in District 2, the property description reads: “Westerly: ... Twin Brooks Drive, westerly along the northern border of Twin Brooks Park Ponds along a line perpendicular to the Pequannock River” but that this part of the description contains no fixed points. He asked the Committee to consider “... Twin Brooks Drive to Brock Road to the Pequannock River...” or “... the edge of Twin Brooks Pond to the closest point at the Pequannock River and then along a perpendicular line ...” or, alternatively, the description could reference the involved Census block.
In regard to the proposed **District 3**, no one on the Committee had any changes to suggest.

In regard to the proposed **Districts 4 and 5**, Steve Earley noted that there is an apparent gap in the description along Park Lane, because Mitchell Avenue and Park Lane don’t meet; they terminate at Jane Ryan School. Laurel Anderson asked if there was a problem with the Easterly description referencing the boundary of the 134th state House district; Steve Earley responded that there was no problem as long as that line doesn’t cross any Census block borders. Laurel Anderson noted that the language for the District 5 Westerly border needs to mirror the language for the District 4 Northerly border.

In regard to the proposed **Districts 5, 6 and 7**, Tony Scinto asked where Census block 756 should be included, and if Taits Mill Road was in District 6 or District 7, and whether there should be a mention of Taits Mill Road in the District 5 or District 7 boundary. In response to a suggestion by Kevin Shively, it was the sense of the meeting that these issues needed clarification. Steve Earley noted that there is an omission in the description of the Northerly border, now described as “... Dayton Road to Asbury Road to Old Coach Lane, ...” but which should be amended to mirror District 3’s Southerly border “... Wedgewood Road to Old Coach Lane to Fieldcrest Drive...”

In regard to the proposed **District 7**, Tony Scinto noted that the Southerly border should reference both the Stratford and the Bridgeport town lines, and the Easterly border should reference both the Shelton and Stratford town lines. Steve Earley noted that the description of the District 7 Northerly border should match the District 2 Westerly border, so that there would be no discrepancies. Dan Schopick noted that in the Westerly description, the wording should be “Reservoir Avenue,” not “Reservoir Road.”

It was the sense of the meeting that the Committee members need a larger map from Steve Earley; Steve Earley suggested that the map could be 3 feet by 4 feet and could include Census blocks, and he volunteered to deliver the new maps to the Committee members’ mailboxes. Kevin Shively volunteered to re-write the descriptions to match the map. Several Committee members expressed a strong desire to have Richard White present for the next meeting; Laurel Anderson said she would try to arrange that.

**Old Business**

There was no other old business.

**New Business**

There was no new business.

**Adjournment**

On a motion by Kevin Shively, seconded by Tom Kelly, and agreed to unanimously, Laurel Anderson adjourned the meeting at 11:13 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Rabinow  
Clerk of the Committee
Seven District Plan – Boundary Description

District 1
Northerly: The Monroe town line
Easterly: The Shelton town line, Booth Hill Road, each in part.
Southerly: Strobel Road, northerly along Booth Hill Brook, following a line perpendicular to it connecting to the end of Clarion Place, Clarion Place, Country Club Road, Daniels Farm Road, Rte 25 Expressway, each in part.
Westerly: Rte 25 Expressway, Pequonnock River, Old Mine Road, Monroe Turnpike (Rte 111), each in part.

District 2
Northerly: Daniels Farm Road, Country Club Road, Clarion Place, easterly along a line perpendicular to Booth Hill Brook, southerly along Booth Hill Brook to Strobel Road, Strobel Road, Booth Hill Road, the Shelton town line, each in part.
Easterly: The Shelton town line, the Stratford town line
Southerly: The Stratford town line, Merritt Parkway (Rte 15), each in part.
Westerly: Unity Road, Booth Hill Road, West Mischa Road, southern edge of Pinewood Lake, West Lake Road, Twin Brooks Drive, westerly along the northern border of Twin Brooks Park Ponds along a line perpendicular to the Pequonnock River, Rte 25 Expressway.

District 3
Northerly: Monroe town line.
Easterly: Monroe Turnpike (Rte 111), Old Mine Road, Pequonnock River, Rte 25 Expressway, each in part.
Southerly: Whitney Avenue, Broadway, Main Street (Rte 111), Stonehouse Road, West Rock Road, Fieldcrest Drive, Old Coach Lane, Wedgewood Road, Asbury Road, Dayton Road, Old Village Lane, Limerick Road, Cromwell Road, Madison Avenue, Monitor Hill Road, Mariner Circle, Inverness Road, Three Trees Lane, each in part.
Westerly: Easton town line.

District 4
Northerly: Kaechele Street, Madison Avenue, Driftwood Lane, Lake Avenue, Wildwood Drive, Canoe Brook Road, Park Lane, Garwood Road, Histon Road, Elliot Road, Mulberry Street, Hampton Road, Mitchell Road, western edge of Jane Ryan Elementary School, Shady Lane, Park Lane, each in part.
Easterly: Main Street (Rte 111), in part.
Southerly: The Bridgeport town line.
Westerly: The Fairfield town line, The Easton town line.

District 5
Northerly: Mulberry Street, Sterling Road, Walker Road, each in part.
Easterly: Main Street (Rte 111), Church Hill Road (Rte 127), Old Church Hill Road, Church Hill Road (Rte 127) again, White Plains Road (Rte 127), along the line of 134th State Assembly District to Reservoir Avenue, each in part.
Southerly: The Bridgeport town line.

Westerly: Main Street (Rte 111), Park Lane, Shady Lane, western edge of Jane Ryan Elementary School, Mitchell Road, Hampton Road, each in part.

District 6
Northerly: Three Trees Lane, Inverness Road, Mariner Circle, Monitor Hill Road, Madison Avenue, Cromwell Road, Limerick Road, Old Village Lane, Dayton Road, Asbury Road, Wedgewood Road, Old Coach Lane, Field Crest Drive, West Rock Road, Stonehouse Road, Main Street (Rte 111), Broadway Road, Whitney Avenue, each in part.


Southerly: Pequonnock River, Daniels Farms Road, Church Hill Road (Rte 127), Old Church Hill Road, Church Hill Road (Rte 127) again, Main Street (Rte 111), Walker Road, Sterling Road, Mulberry Street, Elliot Road, Histon Road, Garwood Road, Park Lane, Canoe Brook Road, Wildwood Drive, Lake Avenue, Driftwood Lane, Madison Avenue, Kaechele Street, each in part.

Westerly: The Easton town line.

District 7
Northerly: Daniels Farm Road, Pequonnock River, continuing easterly along the norther border of Twin Brooks Park Ponds, Twin Brooks Drive, West Lake Road, southern edge of Pinewood Lake, West Mischa Road, Booth Hill Road, Unity Road, Merritt Parkway (Rte 15), each in part.

Easterly: The Stratford town line.

Southerly: The Bridgeport town line.

Westerly: Reservoir Avenue, along the line of the 134th State Assembly District, White Plains Road (Rte 127), each in part.