

Town of Trumbull
2022 Trumbull Redistricting Committee
Meeting Minutes
January 24, 2022 – 5:30 p.m.
Virtual Meeting – Zoom Videoconferencing

A regularly scheduled meeting of the 2022 Trumbull Redistricting Committee of the Town of Trumbull was held via videoconferencing on Thursday, January 24, 2022.

Attendance

Members Present: Laurel Anderson, Committee Chairman
Jean Rabinow, Democratic Registrar of Voters
Tracy Vonick, Republican Registrar of Voters
Alissa Hall, Town Council District 3
Tom Kelly, Elector
Mark Block, Elector

Members Absent: None.

Also Present: Vicki A. Tesoro –First Selectman
Steven Earley – Expert Volunteer
Richard White – Expert Volunteer
Dan Schopick – Town Attorney
William Chin – Director of Information Technology
Gia Mentillo – Committee Clerk

Chairman Anderson called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Opportunity for Public Comment

None.

Approval of Jan 13, 2022 Meeting Minutes

MOTION MADE (Block), seconded (Rabinow) to postpone the approval of the January 13, 2022 Meeting Minutes to the January 31, 2022 meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Vote: 6-0 Motion Carried

New Business

Review District Revision Options Created by Richard White

Richard White stated that he utilized the criteria provided by the Committee in the previous meeting to draft two new voting district maps for Trumbull. White began sharing his screen with the Committee and explained to them the approach he took when creating both maps, stating that

he began working from the House district boundaries each time in an attempt to limit the number of split voting districts in Town.

White presented “Plan 1” which showed voting districts with populations near-perfectly equal to one-another (approximately 5,200 people per district). Though the plan only had two split districts, there was a significant issue in the fact that one of the voting districts was split three ways, meaning there were three different house districts represented in the one voter district. White presented “Plan 2” which showed roughly equal population for each district, though there was more variation amongst districts than “Plan 1.” Though this plan included three split districts, each was only split two ways.

The Committee agreed to utilize “Plan 2” as a starting point for their redistricting process as it appeared to be closest to their end goal. Vonick requested that White share a copy of “Plan 2” with committee members so that they could review it more thoroughly before the next meeting. White confirmed that he would be able to do so, noting that he would print a copy which shows the population for each census block to ensure the Committee has all the necessary information when attempting to redraw boundaries.

The Committee discussed possible ways the draft could be amended to better reach their goals, and stated that they would all review the draft and bring their thoughts back to the next meeting.

Discussion of / Agreement on Document / Data Requirements

Rabinow stated that she felt the compactness of the districts should be less of a priority than obtaining equal population for each district and minimizing the number of splits districts. Vonick voiced agreement with this but noted that he would be willing to allow a greater deviation to population size if such deviation could significantly enhance the layout of a district.

The Committee agreed to strive to limit split districts to two splits.

Earley noted that he would be living the hard copies of “Plan 2” at the reception desk of Trumbull Town Hall for committee members to pick up.

Other Information and Points of Clarification

Anderson asked the Committee if they required anything other than a hard copy of “Plan 2” prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting. Block requested a copy of the 2012 Trumbull Redistricting Committee Report.

First Selectman Tesoro noted that all materials from that committee should be posted on the website which was specially made for the committee at the time.

Determine Focus of Next Meeting

Vonick asked White and the Committee whether they felt they would benefit from having additional time to review “Plan 2” and propose changes. The Committee and White confirmed this to be true.

MOTION MADE (Vonick), seconded (Rabinow) to cancel the 2022 Trumbull Redistricting Committee Meeting scheduled for Thursday, January 27, 2022. The motion carried unanimously.
Vote: 6-0 **Motion Carried**

Old Business

None.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 6:36p.m. by Block and seconded by Rabinow. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gia Mentillo
2022 Trumbull Redistricting Committee Clerk