

Town of Trumbull
2022 Trumbull Redistricting Committee
Revised Meeting Minutes
March 3, 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 March 3, 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
Stephen Lemoine, Town Council District 5
Tom Kelly, Elector
Mark Block, Elector

Members Absent: None.

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

Chairman Anderson called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

There was no request to comment from any member of the public.

New Business

Review and Vote On Acceptance of Final Version of the Map Provided by Richard White

White shared his screen to present to the Committee the final version of the proposed voting district map which he entitled “Committee Final Report.” He stated that he implemented changes to the district map as requested by the Committee in the previous meeting, noting the removal of the red circles, incorporation of house district labels, and inclusion of a color key. He stated his intent label each voting district on the map in addition to identifying them within the key and showed the Committee where such labels would be placed.

Vonick requested that White do a brief walk through of the map for clarity and posterity. White pointed to each proposed voting district on the map identifying their labels and the associated house districts, stating the following: District 1 is red, District 2 is blue, District 3 is green, District 4 is purple and is split amongst two House District, District 5 is orange, District 6 is yellow and split amongst two House District, and District 7 is beige and split amongst two House Districts.

Block asked what the difference of population was between the largest and smallest proposed voting districts as presented in the map Committee Final Report. White stated the difference to be 49 people. Kelly stated that the largest deviation from the optimal population total per voting district was 26 people.

Kelly thanked both expert volunteers for their efforts and quality of work produced, noting how incredible it is to have voting districts with such nearly equal populations.

Vonick asked whether the Committee intends to keep the census block labels showing resident count on the map included with the final report. White stated that it may be best to keep that information on the map so that the Town Council can utilize it if need be, noting that a separate map without such labels would be created by the Trumbull Engineering Department to be distributed to the Registrars Office and community. The Committee decided to keep the population labels on the map to be attached to the final report.

MOTION MADE (Rabinow), seconded (Kelly) to accept the map entitled Committee Final Report provided by Richard White as an attachment to the Committee's final report. The motion carried.

Vote: 6 – 1 (Lemoine)

Motion Carried

Review and Vote On acceptance of the Final Version of the Report to the Town Council

Chairman Anderson shared her screen and showed the changes she made to the final report as requested by the Committee during the previous meeting, thanking Rabinow for her contributions in drafting various elements. The Chairman informed that she included an excerpts from the Town Charter and State Statutes which address the process by which districts are amended in Trumbull and informs of the one-person one-vote mandate. These elements were included as supporting materials for the guidelines put forth by the Committee during their initial meetings.

MOTION MADE (Kelly), seconded (Hall) to approve the Committee's final report to the Town Council as presented by Chairman Anderson. The motion carried. *Vonick abstained.*

Vote: 4 – 2 (Lemoine and Block)

Motion Carried

Block asked whether the Committee would have an opportunity to vote on the remaining three sets of minutes not yet approved or if there was a need to conduct an additional meeting after all such minutes have been posted and reviewed. Atty. Schopick informed that there was no method by which the Committee members could vote on the meeting minutes other than conducting a meeting to do so. He stated that no matter the circumstance there will always be one final set of minutes not formally approved, adding that any member who wishes to have a set of minutes revised may bring their concerns to Chairman Anderson.

MOTION MADE (Vonick), seconded (Rabinow) to conduct a meeting on Thursday, March 10, 2022 to approve the meeting minutes from February 24th, February 28th, and March 3rd of 2022. The motion carried unanimously.

Vote: 7 – 0

Motion Carried

Vote to Agree the Work of the Committee is Ended

MOTION MADE (Block), seconded (Rabinow) to postpone the vote to end the work of the Committee to the March 10, 2022 meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Vote: 7 – 0

Motion Carried

Final Note

Atty. Schopick noted that members intending to submit a minority report may want to have it prepared for the Committee's review by March 10th so that it may be submitted in conjunction with the majority report. Block stated that the minority report would be submitted separately from the majority report. Chairman Anderson stated her intent to submit the Committee's final report (a.k.a. the majority report) to the Town Council on March 4, 2022.

Vonick thanked Richard White and Steven Earley for all the time and effort they put into supporting the Committee. He also thanked Chairman Anderson and Clerk Mentillo for getting materials to the Committee and posted to the public by the appropriate deadlines.

Kelly seconded Vonick's comments, thanking expert volunteers particularly for the thoroughness and excellent quality of their work. He also thanked Chairman Anderson for her integrity and efforts to uphold the ethical standards of the Committee.

Block voiced agreement with both Vonick and Kelly. He also thanked the Registrars for their insights on the redistricting process as well as Atty. Schopick for providing legal guidance when needed. Block stated that, though the Committee may not agree entirely on the final report, he has found this to be a very enjoyable experience in the collegial sense. Although there may be difference of opinions, the Committee has still created a complete, accurate report of quality that can be presented to the Town Council.

Chairman Anderson extended thanks to the various members of the Committee as well, noting the expert volunteer's astounding turn-around time on supplemental materials.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 6:10p.m. by Block and seconded by Rabinow. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gia Mentillo
2022 Trumbull Redistricting Committee Clerk

