

Town of Trumbull
2022 Trumbull Redistricting Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 17, 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 February 17, 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 5:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

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

New Business

Vonick informed that the Registrar Office received the new U.S. Congressional District maps from the State which indicated that all of Trumbull remains in the 4th Congressional District.

Review and Discuss District Renaming

Chairman Anderson noted that she was unable to distribute materials to the Committee prior the meeting and asked that Richard White share his screen to present the data he prepared based on Vonick's question as to whether the current district numbering system, as displayed on map February 1, 2022: 8:33am, is numbered in a way that minimizes alterations to the existing district

layout. White displayed map February 1, 2022: 8:33am along with various data sets, exemplifying the approaches taken to conduct the necessary data analysis to answer Vonick's question.

White explained that he utilized U.S. Census data within Excel to compare all 531 Census Blocks within Trumbull based on several different criteria. First, he compared the populations of the existing Trumbull voting districts to the proposed districts which allowed him to identify if a significant portion of the existing voting district's population had been relocated to a differently numbered proposed district. He then did a similar analysis comparing populations amongst old House District lines in an attempt to identify any significant alterations. Lastly, he compared populations to the new House District lines. This led White to making the recommendation that the Committee leave the districting numbering as-is.

Chairman Anderson stated that she would like to include a comment in the Committee's final report to the Town Council which informs that the Committee looked into renumbering the districts but determined that it best to keep the current configuration. The Committee voiced support for this. Block requested that the Chairman also include a comment that the Committee attempted to find the historical reasoning for the current district numbering system and was unsuccessful.

Review and Discuss Boundary Description List Provided by Steven Earley

Chairman Anderson informed that the Committee amended map February 1, 2022: 8:33am on February 10th so that the westerly boundary of District 1 continues along Route 25 to the intersection of Monroe Turnpike. White amended the map in real-time.

Rabinow stated a need to update the westerly boundary description for District 1 to reflect the aforementioned changes made to the district lines by the Committee on February 10th, informing that the matching change would need to be made to the easterly boundary of District 3.

Chairman Anderson asked for clarification of the southerly boundary description of District 1 when referring to Country Club Road, pointing to graphical discrepancies between the Town map and the Census map. White informed that the U.S. Census data clarifies this to be solely a graphical discrepancy.

Lemoine questioned the southerly boundary description for District 1 regarding the area where Strobel Road meets Pinewood Trail. Earley stated that Strobel Road does intersect with Pinewood Trail but clarified that it is Pinewood Trail which terminates at that intersection while Strobel Road continues along to Booth Hill Road. No other comments were made regarding District 1.

Rabinow stated that the northerly boundary description of District 2 should be amended to read as "Country Club Road, Brookside Drive, Brookhedge Road, Old Stream Lane, Oldfield Road, southerly along Booth Hill Brook to Strobel Road, Strobel Road, Hemlock Trail, Bear Den Road, Pinewood trail, Strobel Road again, Booth Hill Road, the Shelton town line, each in part." Chairman Anderson and Lemoine agreed with this.

Lemoine questioned the easterly boundary description of District 2 in regards to Wildrose Lane, pointing to graphical discrepancies between the Town map and the Census map. White informed that he reviewed the U.S. Census data which confirmed that this was solely a graphical issue. Earley confirmed that this section of the Town line is at the intersection of Wildrose Lane and Isinglass Road.

Lemoine questioned the westerly description of District 2 in regards to Reservoir Avenue, again noting discrepancies between the Town map and US Census. Earley explained that this graphical issue was slightly different than others as Reservoir Avenue was moved in the 1970s and the Census Block was never properly amended to reflect that change. Meaning, the Census Block (and 134th State Assembly District line) truly runs through the center of a parcel as it follows the historic path of Reservoir Avenue. Rabinow clarified that the description was correct as-is, noting that that is how the discrepancy was traditionally addressed.

White, in real-time, created a map based of the February 1, 2022: 8:33am map which highlighted the three instances where discrepancies between the Town and US Census data occur.

Rabinow requested that the easterly boundary description for District 3 be amended to reflect the changes as requested in the discussion of the westerly boundary of District 1.

The Committee had no comments or questions regarding the boundary descriptors for Districts 4, 5, 6, or 7.

Earley confirmed that he would be able to make the aforementioned revisions to the boundary descriptions prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Other New Business / Identify New Data or Documents Needed

Chairman Anderson stated that she would utilize the 2020 Trumbull Redistricting Committee's final report as a template to begin a rough draft of the 2022 Trumbull Redistricting Committee's final report which she would distribute prior to the next regularly scheduled meeting. She asked that the Committee take a final vote on boundary descriptors at said meeting prior to beginning discussions on the final report.

Old Business

There was no old business discussed.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made at 6:23p.m. by Block and seconded by Rabinow. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gia Mentillo
2022 Trumbull Redistricting Committee Clerk