

MEETING SUMMARY
Redistricting Committee of the BOCC
10am-12pm
Tuesday, March 22, 2011

Attendance

Staff: Brian Francis, Assistant to the County Manager
Rebecca Herbert, Facilitator
Tracy Edwards, Administrative Assistant

Members: Aisha Dew, Chair
Antoine Dennard
Bryan Holladay
Lawrence Shaheen
Arthur Griffin
Robin Bradford
Mike Walker
John Autry
Lee Teague

Absent: None

Rebecca Herbert called the meeting to order

I. Recap of Previous Meeting

Ms. Herbert gave a recap of the March 15, 2011 meeting. Ms. Herbert said the committee decided they wanted to be a self direct group and adopted its ground rules, decision-making model and tactics that may be used to guide conversation.

Brian Francis asked the committee if it was still comfortable with the decision-making model agreed upon at the last meeting. The Committee agreed that it was. He reminded the Committee that they were an Advisory Board to the Board of County Commissioners and that whatever recommendations they came up with the final decision would be that of the Board of County Commissioners. Mr. Francis noted that the General Assembly could intercede if they wanted to.

II. Racial Criteria

Ms. Herbert addressed Racial Criteria.

- A. Pending Decision - Which data set to use?
- Total Population
 - Voting Age Population

Ms. Herbert asked the Committee to think about total population and voting population and which one really speaks to their interest the most. She said both would get the job done but which one really speaks to their interest, to their concerns, and to what they want to safe guard.

The committee decided to use the voting age population as their data set for determining majority-minority districts.

B. Next Decision – Determine criteria for establishing a “majority-minority” district

Mr. Francis addressed establishing a “majority-minority” district. He said when determining how many people live in a district the committee would use the total population from the Census data. He said the Commissioners have charged the committee with coming up with two majority-minority districts.

Mr. Francis said the committee needed to define the threshold and define what percentage of voter age population is considered a majority-minority district.

The committee decided that between 53-55% would be considered as a majority-minority district.

III. Partisanship Criteria

Ms. Herbert addressed Partisan Criteria

A. First Decision – Which Data Set?

- All registered voters
- Actual voters based on past voting history
- Actual elections

Ms. Herbert asked the committee which criteria they would like to use in determining partisanship. The committee participated in an exercise to help them determine this. Since the committee could not come to an agreement no decision was made. Brian Francis will provide the committee with more information so that they could possibly come to an agreement at the next meeting.

IV. Actions Taken

- A. (Reaffirmed) Decision-Making Model – Consensus
- B. (Approved) Racial Criteria – Voting Age Population
- C. (Approved) Percentage of Voter Age population for Majority-Minority District 53-55%
- D. (Pending) Partisanship Criteria

V. Calendar Reminders

- A. Next meeting was tentatively set for Tuesday, April 5, 2011. Time TBD