

Redistricting Citizens' Advisory Committee
Joint Meeting with the Desert Community College District
Board of Trustees Meeting

DRAFT Minutes for Friday, January 21, 2022
Via YouTube or Live Zoom Meeting

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by the Desert Community College District's Board Chair, Ruben Perez, at 9:53 a.m.

Present: Agustin Arreola-Area 1; Joe Mota (Chair)-Area 2; Kay Hazen-Area 3; Mike Gialdini-Area 4; Ralph Reyes-Area 5

Quorum was Present

2. Information/Discussion Items

Desert Community College District's Board Chair, Ruben Perez, introduced Jim Priest of Best Best and Krieger to provide a background on the redistricting process and to summarize the maps that were presented at the December 17, 2021 meeting.

Mr. Priest gave a quick overview as follows:

- Every 10 years we need to look at the census data to review the electoral area boundaries
- Based on the 2020 census the five areas are not population balanced; therefore, the population needs to be more equal in numbers
 - District 2 – Over by 6,000
 - District 3 – Under by 3,400
 - District 4 – Under by 3,800

- We are continuing to work with the same two maps which have been reviewed by the committee and at the joint meeting in December. Based on some input from the committee we have made some adjustments to the maps. We have not received any additional comments from the public or any draft maps from the public.

- Option A Map:** (One change)
 - Move 4,000 from District 2 to District 3 (North of I-10)
 - Districts 2 & 3 elect on the same cycle
 - This is a simple move
 - Does not affect the election cycle
 - This move creates a 6½% deviation which is legally compliant

- **Option B Map:** (Four changes)
 - Move 7,000 from District 2 to District 3, which results in District 3 being over
 - Then move 3,500 from District 3 to District 4 (by Cathedral City)
 - ♣ Net effect - District 2 is under by a few hundred
 - ♣ Net effect - District 3 is over by a few hundred
 - Then move about 150 from District 4 to District 3 (Tetris piece) (SW of Palm Desert) This was done to even out the census lines.
 - Then in a small area above I-10 about 10 people were moved
 - Some election cycles will be affected
- Mr. Priest opened it up for any questions.
- Board Chair Perez asked for permission for one more public comment to be made for the Regular Desert Community College District's board meeting.
- Board Chair Perez then re-opened the floor to the Public Hearing to allow the community to comment on the redistricting maps.

Mr. Priest requested of the Board Chair to make one last comment before public comments were entertained. Board Chair Perez agreed.

Mr. Priest summarized as follows:

- Option B has more moving parts; but the net result is that the total deviation is less than 1% in all Trustee areas; a more thorough re-balancing
- Option A is a much simpler adjustment, less re-balancing

The time limit was opened again for any public comments on the redistricting maps.

Public Comment by Giselle Woo:

She didn't know what questions should be asked. Board Chair Perez explained that during this time the public would give their opinion on the presentation. She said it was hard for the public to understand what this was all about.

- Mr. Priest interjected that there is a Redistricting link on the College of the Desert website that contains a lot of information about this process and links to a mapping tool where the public could create and propose a map for consideration.
- Having conducted the public hearing, Board Chair Perez asked if there were any objections to referring the maps back to the Redistricting Citizens Advisory Committee for further deliberation. No objections were noted.
- Board Chair Perez proceeded to invite the Chair of the Redistricting Citizens' Advisory Committee, Joe Mota, to share any comments.
- Joe Mota invited the public to visit the link on the College of the Desert website to view all of the information about this redistricting process and invited the public to the January 28th meeting. At this meeting the committee will discuss any feedback, review the maps and decide what option is the best to present to the Board of Trustees.

3. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:23 a.m. Board Chair Perez thanked Joe and the entire committee for all of their hard work on this project.

Next Meeting

Friday, January 28, 2022

Meeting Start Time: 2:00 p.m.