



**CITY OF ST. PETERSBURG
CITIZEN REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (RDC)**

PUBLIC MEETING

**City Council Chambers
City Hall**

**August 22nd, 2022
Monday, 5:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

Members Present: Kim Vogel
Darla Otey
Melissa Meshil
Joel B. Giles
Shameka Jones
Trevor Mallory
J.C. Pritchett
James Kidder
Tahisia Scantling

Staff Present: Brian Caper, Manager, City Development Administration
Brett Pettigrew, Assistant City Attorney
Benjamin James, Assistant City Attorney
Michael Hernandez, Analyst, Planning & Development Services
Anthony Chan, Specialist, Economic & Workforce Development
Nina Mahmoudi, Director, Marketing & Communications
Shelly Loos, Special Projects Director, Mayor's Office
Kurt Spitzer, RDC Consultant (Via Zoom)

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m., a quorum was present.

I. Welcome and Self Introductions

Introductions were made by each Commission Member and City Staff.

II. Approval of August 15th, 2022, RDC Meeting Minutes (Vote)

Commissioner Giles moved, and Commissioner Kidder seconded a motion to approve the August 15th, 2022, minutes approved as written by a consensus vote.

III. Public Comment and Correspondence (3 minutes per speaker, maximum 10 speakers)

No public comment.

IV. Review of Process

Brett Pettigrew gave remarks on review of process and answered questions from the Commission with Brian Caper assisting as needed. To comply with Ex Parte Communication Policy contained in the RDC Rules, Commission members are asked to disclose oral and written conversation they may have had outside of the meeting.

V. Marketing and Outreach

Nina Mahmoudi gave an overview of the City's marketing and outreach efforts related to the Redistricting process and answered questions from the Commission.

VI. Review Alternative District Maps (information)

Kurt Spitzer provided an alternative map base from the August 15th meeting with the Commission, gave an overview of the changes made to the previous maps, then took comments from the commission and answered questions to clarify best practices.

Commissioner Mallory addressed concerns over the areas surrounding Tropicana Field, specifically voting Precinct 121 and the Gas Plant District. He discussed the strengths and weaknesses of shifting these areas into District 7..

Commissioner Kidder offered several alternatives to address Commissioner Mallory's concerns.

Commissioner Pritchett stated that he was not interested in diluting African American votes by moving largely white voting precincts in District 6 to District 7 and further added he did not see any gain from this adjustment.

Commissioner Vogel followed up with Commissioner Pritchett and did not agree with moving Tropicana Field to District 7.

Commissioner Mallory agreed with both Commissioner Pritchett and Vogel in not moving Tropicana Field to District 7.

Vice Chair Meshil agreed as well and added the future would likely be overpopulated if this adjustment were made.

Commissioner Pritchett left meeting at 6:15pm

Commissioner Giles inquired on moving boundaries between District 6 and District 4 and offered alternative solutions.

Commissioner Mallory left meeting at 6:28pm

Chair Jones reiterated the adjustments made for Districts 3, 4, and 5 to reflect on the maps in the next meeting.

Commissioner Kidder commented with the Commission in agreement, that it would rely on Consultant Spitzer judgement to make decisions on minor details to be approved at the next meeting.

VII. New Business

September 26th is a religious holiday, so the scheduled meeting will be cancelled, with a tentative schedule of two meetings on the week of September 19th - Monday, September 19th and if needed, Thursday, September 22nd.

VIII. Additional Public Comment and Correspondence (3 minutes per speaker)

No Additional Public Comments.

IX. Other Business

No other business.

X. Adjourn

With no further items to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm.

Commissioner Giles moved, and Commissioner Scantling seconded a motion to adjourn approved as written by a consensus vote.