

ITEM NUMBER

8



REDISTRICTING TASK FORCE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO MINUTES

DRAFT

Tenderloin Community School
627 Turk Street
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

November 19, 2011– 10:00 A.M.

Special Meeting

Members: Eric McDonnell, Chair, Jenny Lam, Vice Chair, Member Alonso, Member Leigh, Member Melara, Member Mondejar. Member Schreiber, Member Tidwell

1. Call to Order and Roll Call (10:10 a.m. to 10:11 a.m.)

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m. On the call of the roll, Member Mondejar was noted absent.

2. Introduction to Redistricting (10:12 a.m. to 11:21 a.m.)

Karin MacDonald, Project Manager and Senior Redistricting Consultant for Q2 Data & Research presented a slide presentation of the redistricting process. Chair McDonnell asked the public for questions relating to the clarification of the redistricting process.

Public Comment:

Paul Hogarth, Tenderloin Housing Clinic, raised questions relating to the legality of moving Treasure Island from District 6 to District 3 as it relates to water boundaries and contiguity. Deputy City Attorney Mollie Lee responded that this is a legal question and the City Attorney's office is reviewing and will provide an opinion to the Task Force.

John Bardis inquired how the criteria for compactness and contiguity were met in the previous mapping of District 5. He requested the Task Force to specifically look at the compactness of District 5 during the redistricting process.

Patrick Earl, Diamond Heights Association, inquired whether or not the gay community is considered a minority in the context of the Voting Acts Rights definitions of a minority.

Karen MacDonald, Consultant, responded that in the context of the Voting Rights Act that they are not considered a minority, but could be considered as a Community of Interest. He also requested that Diamond Heights remain in District 8 in the redistricting process.

Kathleen Courtney, Russian Hill Neighborhood Association, urged neighborhood associations and organizations to register with the Planning Department in order to be informed and participate in the redistricting process. Ms. Courtney inquired as to what was the selection process for the consultant for the redistricting for 2011.

Olga Milan-Howells, College Hill Association, informed the Task Force the process of registering with the Planning Department and the criteria for the waiving of fees applied by the Planning Department. She asked what will the mapping look like and how does the

Task Force arrive at the minority percentages being utilized in the redistricting process. Karen MacDonald, Consultant, responded that the Task Force uses short form census data, which asks about race and ethnicity.

Chris Bowman, past member of the 1995 Task Force, raised questions relating to language that neighborhoods are recognized and defined by the City and County of San Francisco. He asked where this language could be found in the San Francisco Charter or other legal text. He also inquired whether or not there is legal text which relates to using man made or natural boundaries in determining contiguity.

Myong Leigh, Member, asked whether the Task Force could go beyond 1% population deviation based on communities of interest. Karin MacDonald, Consultant, responded that it could not. Deviations from 1%-5% are only permitted to preserve recognized neighborhoods and prevent vote dilution.

Paul Hogarth, Tenderloin Housing Clinic, urged the Task Force to keep the boundaries of uptown Tenderloin intact. He noted that the Tenderloin has low voter turn-out and that for it to have political power it is important that it be kept together. He strongly advocated to keep the Uptown Neighborhood District a Community of Interest. The Uptown Neighborhood District has become a Historic District and is closely aligned with the North of Market Community Benefit District. He asked the Task Force when redistricting District 6 not to go south of Geary Street or east of Van Ness Avenue. He will submit the official boundaries for the Tenderloin Upton Neighborhood Historic District and the North of Market Community Benefit District.

3. Presentation by Past Task Force Members (11:21 a.m. to 11:22 a.m.)

There were no presentations made by past task force members.

Public Comment: None

4. Task Force Work Assignments (12:01p.m. to 12:05 p.m.)

The Chair assigned the following Task Force members to work on particular matters.

These work assignments may include, but are not limited to, Outreach, Media/Communication, Data/Mapping, Budget/ Board of Supervisors, and Communities of Interest.

Member Mondejar was assigned to be in charge of communications, specifically, outreach to the ethnic media.

Member Alonso was assigned to outreach and engage with neighborhood groups outside of the meetings.

Member Pilpel was assigned to work with the consultant in gathering any data submitted by City Departments.

Member Schreiber was assigned to social media outreach twitter, neighborhood blogs and face book.

Member Lam was assigned to track expenditures associated with the Task Force and the and the consultant's contract.

Member Tidwell was assigned to provide a schedule of Task Force future meeting dates. Chair McDonnell will take the lead as the ambassador but will request other members to make presentations to organizations outside of the Task Force meetings.

Member Pilpel requested that the Task Force receive updates on budget expenditures.

(Note: The following item was heard out of order.)

5. Mapping (11:23 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.)

Karin MacDonald, Project Manager and Senior Redistricting Consultant for Q2 Data & Research, and Jaime Clark provided an overview and examples of the mapping software to look at maps, learn the impact of moving lines, and begin to explore possible new district lines.

John Bardis requested to view the entire map to see District 5 and how it currently relates to compactness as compared to other districts. He was very impressed by the software being used in the redistricting process.

Paul Hogarth, Tenderloin Housing Clinic, indicated that in order to get meaningful public participation in the redistricting process the public should have access to the software being used in the process.

Olga Milan-Howells, College Hill Association, requested information relating to the progression and analysis to be used during the redistricting process in order to have a fair and democratic outcome.

Chris Bowman, past Task Force member, asked whether a 5-year sliding average was used and is that down to the block or tract level? Karen MacDonald, consultant, indicated that the statewide database computed it down to the block level.

Mr. Bowman reviewed with the Task Force members how the districts were defined and created in the 1996 redistricting process.

RECESS

The Task Force recessed at the hour of 12:05 p.m., and reconvened at 12:12 p.m.

6. Community Outreach (12:12 p.m. to 12:25 p.m.) The Task Force discussed community meetings and other outreach activities.

Chair McDonnell explained that member Tidwell will be providing a calendar of future meeting dates to include outreach in the community and asked if other members had any information to consider in the scheduling of off-site meetings

Member Pilpel reviewed the current schedule of Task Force meetings and requested a schedule be prepared for the Task Force members and the public.

Member Melara expressed concern relating to the Board of Supervisors outreach in the redistricting process.

Member Lam requested that the Board of Supervisors provide their community groups to assist Member Alonso with outreach.

Public Comment:

Chris Bowman requested broader outreach be provided to those neighborhoods which were most affected by the previous mapping in 2000 which include Portola District, North Inner Mission, Hayes Valley, Inner Sunset, Potrero Hill, Sea Cliff and Russian Hill.

7. Task Force Member Reports (12:25 p.m. to 12:28 p.m.) Members reported on discussions with the public or public officials concerning the Task Force's future work.

Member Pilpel reported that the Bart Board would be reviewing draft of district maps on Tuesday, November 22, 2011.

Member Schreiber reported that he was preparing a list of neighborhood blogs.

Chair McDonnell reported that City Departments had received correspondence requesting data relating to the redistricting be provided to Task Force members. The Chamber of Commerce has requested a presentation be made to them.

Clerk informed Task Force members that a correspondence with the Task Force Overview, schedule of meetings through of 12/7/11 with a cover letter had been sent to the Department of Elections outreach list by the Department of Elections.

Public Comment: None

8. Public Comment: (12:29 p.m. to 12:30 p.m.)

None

9. Future Agenda Items (12:30 p.m. to 12:12:34 p.m.)

Member Melara requested that the City Attorney provide an answer to the legality of moving Treasure Island. from District 6 to District 3.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at the hour of 12:35 p.m.