

NORMAN REAPPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

MINUTES

July 14, 2014

The Reapportionment Commission of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma met in Annual Session in Conference Room D of Building A of the Norman Municipal Complex at 201 West Gray Street on Monday, July 14, 2014, at 7:30 p.m., and notice and agenda of the meeting were posted at the Norman Municipal Building, 201 West Gray at least 24 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting and at <http://www.normanok.gov/content/board-agendas>.

Item No. 1, being:

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Cheryl Clayton called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

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Item No. 2, being:

ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT

David Morgan, At Large
Isaac O'Bannon, Ward 2
Jonathan Leavey, Ward 3
Lea Greenleaf, Ward 4
Chadwick Cox, Ward 6
Cheryl Clayton, Ward 7
Karl Jahnke, Ward 8

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ted Metscher, Ward 5

A quorum was present.

STAFF PRESENT

Susan Connors, Director
Roné Tromble, Administrative Technician

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Item No. 3, being:

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chair Clayton asked for nominations for the position of Chair.

David Morgan nominated Cheryl Clayton for election to the position of Chair. Jonathan Leavey seconded the nomination. There were no further nominations. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Chair Clayton asked for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair.

Jonathan Leavey nominated David Morgan for election to the position of Vice-Chair. Isaac O'Bannon seconded the nomination. There were no further nominations. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

Chair Clayton asked for nominations for the position of Secretary.

David Morgan nominated Chadwick Cox for election to the position of Secretary. Karl Jahnke seconded the nomination. There were no further nominations. The motion carried by unanimous vote.

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Item No. 4, being:

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 8, 2013 MEETING

Chadwick Cox moved to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2013 meeting, as submitted. Jonathan Leavey seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the motion to approve the minutes of the July 8, 2013 meeting, as submitted, was adopted by unanimous vote.

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Item No. 5, being:

DISCUSSION OF ANNUAL POPULATION FIGURES AND THEIR EFFECT ON THE CITY'S WARD SYSTEM.

ITEMS SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD

1. Staff Memo
2. Statistics for 2013 Reapportionment Commission Review of City Council Wards
3. City of Norman Council Wards map

DISCUSSION BY THE COMMISSION

Ms. Connors reported that the information that was distributed shows that there was more of a change between wards last year than this year. Staff's recommendation would be that we probably don't need to do any reapportioning this year. Ms. Clayton agreed.

Mr. O'Bannon asked where the data comes from. Ms. Connors indicated that it comes from the census, from building permits and other information.

Ms. Clayton commented on the apartments being built in Ward 7, yet the big change was in Ward 6. Ms. Connors explained that a lot of the apartments are under construction. Ward 6 has had a lot of houses built and has been the big growth area in the last year. There is another apartment complex on 12th Avenue S.E. south of Highway 9; one at Classen and Lindsey; Aspen Heights where the Sooner Mobile Home Park was located; The Icon Apartments on 36th Avenue N.W. in Ward 8 is now open; and another apartment complex under construction at Tecumseh and 36th Avenue N.W.

Ms. Clayton asked where staff anticipates the change being next year. Ms. Connors responded that there will be some in Ward 7, Ward 1, and Ward 8. Summit Lakes, Summit Valley, and Bellatona are growing in Ward 5.

David Morgan moved that the Reapportionment Commission recommend to the City Council that no changes be made to the Ward boundaries. Jonathan Leavey seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the motion was adopted by a unanimous vote.

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Item No. 6, being:

MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION

a. CHARTER AMENDMENTS

ITEMS SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD

1. Proposed Charter Amendments

Ms. Connors reported that a Charter Commission was formed to look at various areas of the Charter, including the Reapportionment Commission. The recommendations that the City Council has approved to take forward to the voters include: changing from the Reapportionment Commission to a Reapportionment Ad Hoc Committee, still made up of nine members, that would meet: a) when the City proposes to annex or de-annex property; b) during the last quarter of the calendar year prior to the release of the Federal Decennial Census and continuing through the release of the final Census; or c) upon the unanimous recommendation of City Council. Ms. Connors believes these Charter amendments will be on the November ballot. She noted that the staff will continue to look at the numbers on a yearly basis.

Mr. Morgan commented that he doesn't like that the final decision rests only with the City Council, since they are the group that is affected. There will be no official input unless they ask for it.

Mr. O'Bannon commented that he doesn't believe that review every 10 years is often enough to adequately address the potential changes the City may face; they should consider review at least every 5 years. Ms. Connors noted that the ballot has been set by the City Council at their June meeting.

Ms. Clayton commented that she thinks one of the unfortunate aspects is going to be that, the Commission studies this and understands it and is pretty hands-on in making recommendations, whereas there will probably be different people every time on the ad hoc committee who are unfamiliar with the process. Mr. Jahnke added that we could also end up with some extreme variances during the longer timeframes.

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Item No. 7, being:

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further discussion and no objection, the meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.

Passed and approved this _____ day of July, 20____.

Norman Reapportionment Commission