

**FAIRFAX COUNTY
REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, JULY 27, 2021**

PRESENT: Paul Berry, At-Large, Chairman
Lisa Sales, At-Large
William Bouie, At-Large
Prashanth Rajan, Braddock District
Richard Chew, Hunter Mill District
Bryon Garner, Lee District
Linda Smyth, Providence District
Samuel Walker, Sully District
George Becerra, Northern Virginia Labor Federation Representative
Tim Thompson, Federation of Citizens Associations Representative
Anne Kanter, League of Women Voters Representative
Karen Campblin, African American Community Representative
Maya Castillo, Hispanic Community Representative
Saif Rahman, Arab American Community Representative
Scott Price, Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce Representative

ABSENT: Alis Wang, Mason District
Paul Liberty, Springfield District

REMOTE: James Bierman, Dranesville District
Gerald Hyland, Mount Vernon District
Silvia Patton, Asian/Pacific Islander Community Representative

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. THE 2021 REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE POLICY FOR PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS BY ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION
- B. THE BYLAWS OF THE 2021 REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
- C. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REDISTRICTING RESOLUTION
- D. Redistricting Legal Overview Presentation
- E. One Fairfax Policy

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Chairman Paul Berry called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. in Conference Room 232 of the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Virginia 22035.

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Chairman Berry made opening remarks wherein he addressed the purpose of the 2021 Redistricting Advisory Committee and provided a brief overview of its composition.

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Chairman Berry introduced THE 2021 REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE POLICY FOR PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS BY ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION to the Committee, a copy of which is included in Attachment A, which covered the following topics:

- Authority and Scope;
- Definitions;
- Mandatory Requirements;
- Process To Request Remote Participation;
- Process To Confirm Approval or Disapproval of Participation from A Remote Location;
- Recording In Minutes; and
- Strict And Uniform Application of This Policy.

There was a discussion between Cynthia Bailey, Deputy County Attorney, Office of the County Attorney, and multiple Representatives on the following:

- COVID-19 in relation to the policy;
- The Committee's approval on if the participation request is in conformance with the policy;
- The categories of reasons that allow for remote participation; and
- The audibility of members associated with the policy.

The following Representatives attended the meeting in person, in Conference Room 232 of the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Virginia 22035.

- Paul Berry, Chairman, At-Large
- Lisa Sales, At-Large
- William Bouie, At-Large
- Prashanth Rajan, Braddock District
- Richard Chew, Hunter Mill District
- Bryon Garner, Lee District
- Linda Smyth, Providence District
- Samuel Walker, Sully District
- George Becerra, Northern Virginia Labor Federation Representative
- Tim Thompson, Federation of Citizens Associations Representative
- Anne Kanter, League of Women Voters Representative
- Karen Campblin, African American Community Representative
- Maya Castillo, Hispanic Community Representative
- Saif Rahman, Arab American Community Representative

- Scott Price, Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce Representative

Chairman Berry stated that by simple majority, quorum was present, therefore, MOVED TO ADOPT THE 2021 REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE POLICY FOR PARTICIPATION IN MEETINGS BY ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION.

The motion carried by a vote of 15-0. Representatives Wang and Liberty were absent from the meeting.

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Following the motion, Chairman Berry requested that each remote participant state for the record their location and reason for participating remotely:

- James Bierman, Dranesville District Representative, participated from Jackson WY; first remote attendance due to being on a family vacation (personal matter).
- Gerald Hyland, Mount Vernon District Representative, participated from his residence in Mount Vernon, VA; first remote attendance due to an existing medical condition; and
- Silvia Patton, Asian/Pacific Islander Community Representative, participated from Washington state; first remote attendance due to being on a vacation (personal matter).

Representative Bouie MOVED THAT FOR EACH MEMBER PARTICIPATING REMOTELY, THE REMOTE PARTICIPANT'S VOICE WAS CLEAR, AUDIBLE AND AT AN APPROPRIATE VOLUME FOR THE MEETING ROOM, CONFIRMATION OF THEIR LOCATION, AND THAT THEIR REMOTE PARTICIPATION COMPORTS WITH THE POLICY.

Representative Castillo seconded the motion, which carried by a vote of 15-0. Representatives Wang and Liberty were absent from the meeting.

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Chairman Berry provided an overview of the *Bylaws of the 2021 Redistricting Advisory Committee*, a copy of which is included in Attachment B, which covered the following topics:

- ARTICLE I – Committee Name and Adoption of Bylaws
- ARTICLE II – Purpose
- ARTICLE III – Membership, Resignations, and Vacancies
- ARTICLE IV – Officers and Their Duties
- ARTICLE V – Meetings
- ARTICLE VI – Media Policy

Following the discussion, Representative Becerra MOVED TO AMEND THE LAST SENTENCE OF THE “OFFICERS.” SECTION OF ARTICLE 4 OF THE *BYLAWS OF THE 2021 REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE* TO STATE THAT THE CHAIRPERSON HOLD AN ELECTION FOR THE VICE-CHAIRPERSON AT THE SECOND MEETING.

There was discussion between multiple Representatives on Article IV- “Officers and Their Duties” which included the following:

- Measures of internal politics;
- Allow for committee to get to know one another, prior to the election of officers’; and
- Introduction of members.

The discussion resulted in Representative Kanter making a follow-on motion to amend Representative Becerra’s motion.

Representative Kanter MOVED TO RESCIND THE LAST LINE IN ARTICLE IV TO STATE “ELECTS AT THE NEXT MEETING”

Representative Rahman seconded the motions which failed by a vote of 14 - 4. Representatives Becerra, Kanter, Rahman, and Hyland, voted in favor of the motion. Representatives Berry, Sales, Bouie, Rajan, Chew, Garner, Smyth, Walker, Thompson, Campblin, Castillo, Price, Bierman, and Patton voted in opposition. Representatives Wang and Liberty were absent from the meeting.

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Representative Chew MOVED APPROVAL OF THE *BYLAWS OF THE 2021 REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE*, AS PRESENTED.

Representative Bouie seconded the motion which carried by a vote of 18-0. Representatives Wang and Liberty were absent from the meeting.

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Chairman Berry appointed Representative Campblin to serve as the Vice-Chairperson of the 2021 Redistricting Advisory Committee.

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Committee members introductions.

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Cynthia Bailey, Deputy County Attorney, gave a briefing on the *Virginia Freedom of Information Act (VFOIA)*, followed by a viewing of an introductory video, titled “VFOIA

Explained for BACs (Boards, Authorities, and Commissions)”. The video can be accessed using the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8XgAoM0FtkY>.

There was a discussion between Ms. Bailey and multiple Representatives on the following:

- Unlawful Public Meetings that could occur over e-mail and the County’s practice of the “Blind Closed Copy” feature;
- The procedure for reviewing, approving, and providing meeting minutes to the public; and
- Public records.

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Erin Ward, Deputy County Attorney and Martin Desjardins, Assistant County Attorney, Office of the County Attorney, gave a presentation on the background of election districts the *Resolution of the Board of Supervisors Regarding the 2021 Redistricting of the County’s Election Districts*, dated February 23, 2021, and the legal requirements governing the redistricting process. A copy of which can be found in Attachment C.

Sandra Woiak, Geospatial Services Manager, GIS Division, Department of Information Technology, answered questions from the Committee on the capabilities of the redistricting software.

There was a discussion among the Committee on the historical documentation from the 2011 Redistricting process, inclusive of the number of maps that was provided to the Board of Supervisors from the 2011 Committee.

Representative Becerra asked that a webpage be created with historical information on what was previously done. Chairman Berry asked for Representative Becerra to work directly with staff on his request.

Representative Hyland then shared that he would like for the Committee to have the flexibility to discuss and look at the consideration to expand the number of districts, such as adding an additional district in Lorton. Chairman Berry stated that at the third meeting of the Committee, Committee Members would have the opportunity to bring up any topic for discussion.

Following, discussion ensued with Erin Ward, Deputy County Attorney, on the possibility of drawing districts that may not be in the same as Board of Supervisors Magisterial District as they are currently, the considerations provided in the *Resolution of the Board of Supervisors Regarding the 2021 Redistricting of the County’s Election Districts*, and the role of state and federal law, a copy of which can be found in Attachment D.

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The Committee went into recess at 7:25 p.m. and returned at 7:40 p.m.

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Karla Bruce, Chief Equity Officer, Office of the County Executive, gave a presentation on the One Fairfax Policy, a copy of which can be found in Attachment E.

Discussion about the role of One Fairfax in the process, the data that One Fairfax uses on areas of concern, and the importance of communities to speak and identify as communities of interest. Karla Bruce shared that One Fairfax does have data based on the Vulnerability Index, but that the redistricting software will only allow census data and that the One Fairfax data will not be directly incorporated into the software but will be provided to the Committee.

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Chairman Berry asked for the Committee's input on housekeeping measures regarding the Committee's meeting schedule.

Chairman Berry asked if the Committee was comfortable with Tuesday meetings with a 6 p.m. start time for 2.5 hours and any input on that schedule. The Committee generally came to a consensus that these dates worked.

Chairman Berry then announced that should members need to participate remotely at the August 3, 2021, meeting to communicate with Sara Girello, Management Analyst, Department of Clerk Services, and that the next meeting would be held toward the end of August in a computer lab.

Representative Becerra proposed that 2021 Advisory Committee meetings be held at alternative locations across the County or in alternative rooms at the Government Center.

Chairman Berry stated that meetings of the Committee must be held at the Government Center as arranging staff and the resources necessary within the time frame would be difficult.

Chairman Berry announced that the 2021 Advisory Committee's next meeting was tentatively scheduled for August 3, 2021.

Additionally, Chairman Berry asked that should Committee Members have any scheduling conflicts to e-mail him.

At the conclusion of the meeting, Chairman Berry asked for a member to move to adjourn the meeting.

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Representative Bouie MOVED THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AS OF 8:30 p.m.

The motion was seconded by multiple Representatives which carried by a vote of 17-0. Representative Patton was not present for the vote. Representatives Wang and Liberty were absent from the meeting.