

**FAIRFAX COUNTY  
REDISTRICTING ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2021**

PRESENT: Paul Berry, At-Large, Chairman  
Karen Campblin, African American Community Representative, Vice-Chair  
Lisa Sales, At-Large  
James Bierman, Dranesville District  
Richard Chew, Hunter Mill District  
Bryon Garner, Lee District  
Gerald “Gerry” Hyland, Mount Vernon District  
Linda Smyth, Providence District  
Saif Rahman, Arab American Community Representative  
Silvia Patton, Asian/Pacific Islander Community Representative  
Tim Thompson, Federation of Citizens Associations Representative  
Anne Kanter, League of Women Voters Representative  
George Becerra, Northern Virginia Labor Federation Representative

ABSENT: William Bouie, At-Large  
Prashanth Rajan, Braddock District  
Alis Wang, Mason District  
Paul Liberty, Springfield District  
Samuel Walker, Sully District  
Maya Castillo, Hispanic Community Representative  
Scott Price, Northern Virginia Chamber of Commerce Representative

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Chairman Paul Berry called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. in Conference Room 11 of the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Virginia 22035.

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The following Representatives attended the meeting in-person, in Conference Room 11 of the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax, Virginia 22035.

- Paul Berry, At-Large, Chairman
- Karen Campblin, African American Community Representative, Vice-Chair
- Lisa Sales, At-Large
- James Bierman, Dranesville District
- Richard Chew, Hunter Mill District
- Bryon Garner, Lee District
- Gerald “Gerry” Hyland, Mount Vernon District
- Linda Smyth, Providence District
- Saif Rahman, Arab American Community Representative
- Silvia Patton, Asian/Pacific Islander Community Representative
- Tim Thompson, Federation of Citizens Associations Representative
- Anne Kanter, League of Women Voters Representative
- George Becerra, Northern Virginia Labor Federation Representative

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Chairman Berry presented the meeting's agenda.

Representative Chew MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEETING'S AGENDA.

Representative Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 12-0. Representative Kanter was not present during the vote. Representatives Bouie, Rajan, Wang, Liberty, Walker, Castillo, and Price were absent from the meeting.

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Chairman Berry announced that no Committee members decided to participate remotely.

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Chairman Berry announced the next agenda item, approval of the Minutes from the Redistricting Advisory Committee's eleventh meeting, held on September 27, 2021, and asked if there was a motion to approve.

Representative Hyland MOVED TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 27, 2021, MINUTES.

Representative Garner seconded the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 12-0. Representative Kanter was not present during the vote. Representatives Bouie, Rajan, Wang, Liberty, Walker, Castillo, and Price were absent from the meeting.

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Chairman Berry opened the floor for public comment.

No members of the public requested to speak.

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Chairman Berry opened the floor for discussion on the Chairman's Letter for the Committee's final Report. He shared that he was using the letter from the 2011 Redistricting Advisory Committee's Report as a template and asked the Committee for their thoughts on important topics that should be highlighted in the letter. Additionally, he shared that the letter would need to get to staff as soon as possible for inclusion in the Committee's report, with the hope that the Board of Supervisors would receive the Committee's final Report by the end of the month.

Representative Rahman asked to include in the letter information on how the data needed for the Committee's work was late and that the Committee solicited as much public input as was possible. Representative Sales shared that she'd like the letter to mention software challenges and delays in the tool's readiness. Additionally, she shared that she would like to see the Chairman's letter breaking

down, bolding, and highlighting each of the Committee's criteria that was used for consideration, such as compactness, equity, marginal disruption, etc.

Representative Chew shared that the Redistricting Advisory Committee from 2011 started as a group much sooner than the 2021 Committee, and that in retrospect, if the Committee met earlier, they may have been able to do come up with a better outreach plan and establish better narratives in respect to what to do with the data once it was received. He further shared that he thought this should be mentioned in the beginning of the letter.

Vice-Chair Campblin emphasized the need for continual public outreach and education between now and the Board of Supervisors' final decision on the proposed maps. Additionally, she shared that she believed that the public outreach campaign on redistricting should have started earlier.

Representative Smyth shared that the Board of Supervisors would need to take the step to start public participation and should have started it prior to the Committee meeting to ensure that the public was educated and aware of the process and the criteria being evaluated.

Vice-Chair Campblin shared that she would be making a motion for recommendation to the Board of Supervisors on continual public engagement, following discussion.

Representative Bierman shared that he believed that outreach would be better suited after the data was received and that public engagement being held after the data's release should be mentioned.

Representative Becerra requested that the Chairman's Letter focus on what can be done now, and not what could be done by the 2031 Redistricting Advisory Committee, and that those recommendations should be a separate section in the Committee's final Report.

Representative Kanter shared that the 2011 Redistricting Advisory Committee spent time on educating the Committee on usable terms and concepts related to the Census and the data. She further shared that she would like to see in the language of the Chairman's Letter on the Committee's strong support to look at more than nine districts and a recommendation to the Board to consider looking at additional districts for better representation.

Representative Thompson shared that the Committee should have an addendum of recommendations, not in the Chairman's Letter, which should include a recommendation that the next Redistricting Advisory Committee be started earlier and that the RAC should engage the public, potentially through a subcommittee, before the data is released.

Representative Sales shared that she thought the Redistricting Advisory Committee should kick off its works when the census kicks off. She also suggested that members of the Board of Supervisors should meet with the Redistricting Advisory Committee when it kicks off to share their expectation and that further, there could be a briefing on planning and growth predictions and potentially a tour of each district for the Committee members to be aware of the County as a whole. She further mentioned that she would like recommendations to be in the Report, whether as an addendum in the Report or in an addendum to the Chairman's Letter.

Chairman Berry shared that while he was in favor of a postmortem, the Committee's meeting was scheduled to focus on the Chairman's Letter, and that he didn't believe that the Committee would be able to agree upon and finish recommendations by the meeting's end.

Representative Hyland shared his concerns on public engagement and stated that the Committee should communicate to the Board of Supervisors a need for engagement with citizens. Additionally, he stated that as a Committee, they should make a strong recommendation for the next group to have a timeline for how long the process should be, what should happen at each step in the process, and how to engage citizens from the beginning of the process.

Representative Bierman stated that the meeting was called to go over the Chairman's Letter and not a postmortem. He reminded the Committee of the proposed different categories of points of consideration that the Committee previously discussed for inclusion in the Chairman's Letter, which would be different from discussing recommendations.

Representative Chew asked for clarification on the Board's process for selection of the proposed maps. Discussion then ensued with Sara Girello, Management Analyst, Department of Clerk Services, sharing the Board of Supervisors' timeline and process for authorization to advertise all proposed maps, the public hearing on the maps, and the adoption of a proposed map and ordinance.

Representative Bierman shared that he had to leave the meeting, but that he would support Vice-Chair Campblin's proposed motion on recommendations to the Board for additional public outreach.

Representative Rahman suggested that the Committee include in their Letter the information on the straw poll taken on the Committee members' preferred number of districts.

Representative Smyth suggested that the Committee suggest that outreach to broader civic and topical type groups be recommended to the Board of Supervisors.

Vice-Chair Campblin suggested that there should be a blurb in the Report or in the Chairman's Letter about outreach efforts, which could include how the Committee proposed outreach efforts, how quickly staff responded to the Committee's requests, lessons learned, and what could be done differently. She also asked for additional information on if there was any way to tell if the Committee's outreach materials, posted at public locations for non-internet users, were able to touch upon any members of the public. Sara Girello, Management Analyst, Department of Clerk Services, shared that she would relay Vice-Chair Campblin's question to Brian Worthy of the Office of Public Affairs.

Representative Rahman suggested that data be pulled from the Redistricting webpages to see how many people were reached and that this information could be added to the Letter. Additionally, he suggested that in the Chairman's Letter, instead of only in the Committee's motion, the last paragraph could be written to suggest to the Board of Supervisors a robust engagement period as next steps. Chairman Berry shared that the Committee could make a motion for the Board of Supervisors and could also make the Letter's last sentence mirror this request.

Representative Chew shared that he didn't think a line in the Letter would get visibility promptly and that the Committee should do something now to encourage the Board of Supervisors to take action. He

shared that the Supervisors send out newsletters or other mechanisms to reach out to the district and that the Committee should recommend that the Board get information out on all channels.

Representative Smyth shared that a lot of content for the Board member's newsletters are taken from materials produced by the Office of Public Affairs, and that the Office of Public Affairs should create an educational post inclusive of information on what the next steps are in the redistricting process, where the proposed maps could be found and how to read them, the difference between the maps submitted by the Committee and the public, an FAQ on redistricting, clarification on the number of districts that may be in each map (9, 10, or 11), and that links to the Board of Supervisors' Board Item for Authorization and to the Redistricting webpages.

Discussion then ensued on the content of the Board of Supervisors' newsletters and if Supervisors could create or have dedicated newsletters for the redistricting process.

Vice-Chair Campblin shared that for outreach, in-person events happening now should be taken advantage of, and that information on redistricting should be posted and highlighted in the lobbies of offices or other centers that the public are visiting. Information could include who to contact for more information on the process or QR codes for direct linkage to the redistricting website.

Chairman Berry then reiterated a list of suggested outreach tactics that the Committee could suggest to the Board of Supervisors including:

- Reaching out directly to a list of local organizations and associations;
- Requesting individual Supervisors spread the word through their communications;
- Asking OPA to write a blurb for communications that could be used by the Board of Supervisors which would include the calendar for redistricting, the link to the proposed maps, a general FAQ on redistricting, and a clarification on the difference between the state's redistricting process and the County's; and
- Taking advantage of public outreach opportunities and public in-person events.

Representative Sales suggested that Supervisors should have a dedicated newsletter on Redistricting and that Channel 16 should create a video on redistricting for distribution.

Vice-Chair Campblin then **MOVED TO SUBMIT A RESOLUTION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS RELATED TO INFORMING AND ENGAGING THE GENERAL PUBLIC ON THE REDISTRICTING PROCESS, PURPOSE, AND BENEFITS. THE RESOLUTION WOULD STATE THAT PUBLIC OUTREACH SHOULD INCLUDE:**

- Reaching out directly to a list of local organizations and associations;
- Requesting individual Supervisors spread the word through their communications;
- Asking OPA to write a blurb for communications that could be used by the Board of Supervisors which would include the calendar for redistricting, the link to the proposed maps, a general FAQ on redistricting, and a clarification on the difference between the state's redistricting process and the County's; and
- Taking advantage of public outreach opportunities and public in-person events.

Representative Rahman seconded the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 11-0. Representatives Bierman and Chew were not present during the vote. Representatives Bouie, Rajan, Wang, Liberty, Walker, Castillo, and Price were absent from the meeting.

Representative Smyth stated that Chairman Berry knew the challenges and concerns in the redistricting process and that he could finish the letter with those in mind. She further shared that while she was unsure if recommendations could be placed into the Committee's Report, that the Committee's recommendations and concerns would need to be brought to the Supervisors' attention somehow.

Vice-Chair Campblin asked if in the Chairman's Letter, a statement could be added sharing that the Committee developed and submitted a resolution. She further shared that there could be an addendum that would include a blueprint for 2030. Chairman Berry said he would work on evaluating her suggestions.

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

Representative Rahman MOVED THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED AS OF 7:33 P.M.

Representative Sales seconded the motion. The motion carried by a vote of 11-0. Representatives Bierman and Chew were not present during the vote. Representatives Bouie, Rajan, Wang, Liberty, Walker, Castillo, and Price were absent from the meeting.