

## Ferguson Redistricting Commission 3.17.22

Meeting called to order 5:31p by Chairman Larson. El Douglas was also present for this virtual meeting.

Committee members received several articles from Attorney Apollo Carey on 3.15.22 regarding redistricting criteria: Redistricting Criteria (ncsl.org); Redistricting and the Supreme Court: The Most significant Cases (ncsl.org) and, Basic Equal Population (redistrictingonline.org). Chairman Larson also sent an article dealing specifically with redistricting in Missouri: Redistricting in 2021- 'A Brief Overview For Local Government Officials'. Commission members were also sent email containing slides previously reviewed during the 2/17 meeting.

Based on Ferguson's total population of **18,527** the ideal for each of the 3 wards is **6176**. Current census blocks total: **Ward 1= 6799 (.08% deviation)**, **Ward 2 = 6200 and Ward 3 = 5528 (10.5% deviation)**. **Based on this information there is a 22% deviation. Normal accepted deviation is no more than 10%.**

Larson and Douglas reviewed the slides of the 3 wards in more detail and agreed redistricting was warranted. The commission agreed other issues beside population equality needed to be addressed during the redistricting effort, **i.e., compact districts, retention of existing neighborhood boundaries, retention of precinct boundaries and preservation of communities of interest to list a few.** The goal is to achieve the ideal for each ward while addressing as many of the other criteria as possible.

One suggestion was to look at census blocks off of Forestwood neighborhood as a possible for reaching the ideal. It was suggested we schedule the next meeting in person so maps could be better viewed and the commission could see more clearly how many individuals occupied each census block.

Chairman Larson also agreed to invite a representative (Ryan ?) from the County Board of Elections Mapping Department to our next meeting. Larson indicated this individual was experienced and we should prepare questions to submit prior to the meeting. Larson would also ask for enlarged maps of the wards to better assist the commission in their effort.

Meeting adjourned 6:20p.

Submitted by El Douglas

cc: file