

Minutes of the Worcester, Massachusetts Board of Election Commissioners

June 6, 2011

Call to Order by Chair Dube at 5:40 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Commissioners Present:

Chairperson Mary Anne Dube
Commissioner Ana Rodriguez
Commissioner Robert Winant

Commissioners absent:

Commissioner John Goggins
Commissioner Joseph McGowan

Old Business:

The Commission commenced with the third hearing concerning the recommendations for reprecincting of the city's voting districts as a result of the 2010 Federal census.

Mr Rushford presented the proposed revisions determined from the previous hearing on May 23, 2011 in map form. He explained that the proposed revisions keep the precincts as contiguous as possible and preserves communities of interest as far as possible.

The following information concerning the reprecincting was provided:

1. 2 blocks were moved from ward 4 precinct 4 to ward 4 precinct 5
2. 55 people were moved from ward 4 precinct 1 to ward 4 precinct 4.
3. All districts are now very close to the mean with district 5 having the highest variance.
4. Ward 3 precinct 2 had the highest variance from the mean

5. With the changes, every ward is within 2% of the allowed variance of population.
6. The proposed changes will not be effective until 2012 election as the state has to approve it.

The floor was opened for questions.

There was a question concerning the affecting Lakeside Apartments. Under the current map, Lakeside voters are split between Beaver Brook and Webster Square Shaws. Mr. Rushford noted that Shaws is closer to the center of Lakeside with sidewalks and crossing lights. As a result of the proposed changes, all of Lakeside will be moved to ward 7 precinct 2 and Shaws is the designated voting site.

Lincoln Village has also been consolidated into one community (Ward 2 Precinct 4).

After the discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner Rodriguez to accept the proposed map. Commissioner Winant seconded the motion. The proposed map was accepted by unanimous vote. Chair Dube signed the paperwork and the proposed map will be forwarded to the Secretary of State's office.

The next item was a discussion regarding the polling location for ward 5 precinct 3. That item was tabled.

There was no new business.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 25 at 5:30 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.