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CITY OF BURLINGTON REDISTRICTING COMMITTEE Wednesday, May 29, 2013

MINUTES

PRESENT: Sharon Bushor, Ward 1 City Councilor; Jim Langan, Ward 1 Representative; Japhet Els, Ward 2 Representative; Llu Mulvaney-Stanak, Ward 2 Representative (via phone); Rachel Siegel, Ward 3 City Councilor; Nancy Greenwalt, Ward 3 Representative; George Gamache and Jim Holway, Ward 4 Representatives; Lea Terhune, Ward 4 Alternate; Joan Shannon, Ward 5 City Councilor; Elisa Nelson, Ward 5 Representative; Bill Keogh, Ward 5 Alternate; Andy Montroll and Michael Rooney, Ward 6 Representatives; Paul Decelles, Ward 7 City Councilor; Jason L'Ecuyer, Ward 7 Representative; Cindy Cook, Facilitator; Assistant City Attorney Gene Bergman; Jay Appleton, Planning and Zoning Staff

ALSO PRESENT: Norm Blais, Ward 6 City Councilor; Tom Ayres, Ward 7 City Councilor; Emma Mulvaney-Stanak, Councilor Staff; Alan Matson, School Board; Joe Speidel, Ward 3 Resident, Peter Ireland, Kurt Wright, Joy McGarvey, Ron McGarvey, Russ Ellis, Nancy Ellis, Mark Barlow, Greg Roy, Chuch Seleen, Ward 4 Residents; Connie Krosney, Ward 6 Resident; and Janet Peterson, Barry Trutor, Ward 7 Residents

1. Agenda

Ms. Cook outlined the agenda for the meeting. Jason L'Ecuyer, Ward 7 Representative, requested they time the agenda to stay on track. Ms. Cook stated they can assign time limits or she can work to keep the committee on track. Mr. L'Ecuyer proposed time limits for the agenda items. The Committee accepted the time limits.

Councilor Decelles requested that they move Public Forum to the beginning of the meeting. Michael Rooney, Ward 6 Representative, stated he would like to have time at the beginning and end of the meeting. The Committee agreed to allow public comment at the beginning and end of the meeting.

1.5 Public Forum (15 Minutes)

Alan Matson, School Board and Ward 6 Resident, stated the School Board has a variety of opinions about Redistricting. About half of the Board is interested in having a smaller Board, but that would require restructuring. He hopes that they will work to preserve neighborhoods.

Tom Ayres, Ward 7 City Councilor, spoke in favor of the 8 ward, 2 councilors per ward plan.

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Mark Barlow, Ward 4 Resident, spoke in favor of maintaining or increasing the number of councilors and wards and selecting a map that has consensus.

Nancy Ellis, Ward 4 Resident, spoke in favor of the 8 ward, 2 councilors per ward plan.

Kurt Wright, Ward 4 Resident, spoke in favor of the 8 ward, 2 councilors per ward plan. He suggested that a 7 ward plan with 13 councilors would be strongly opposed in the New North End.

Janet Patterson, Ward 7 Resident, spoke in favor of the 8 ward, 2 councilors per ward plan.

Peter Ireland, Ward 4 Resident, spoke in favor of the 8 ward, 2 councilors per ward plan.

Japhet Els, Ward 2 Representative, inquired how many public forum speakers have attended more than two City Council meetings. He stated he understands the argument, but noted they cannot redistrict based on voter turnout.

Ms. Cook inquired if the Committee would like to allow representatives who could not attend the meeting to vote via phone. Councilor Shannon stated the general rule is that if they do not participate in the debate, they cannot participate in the vote. They could call in to participate in the debate, but she does not want them to just call in a vote. Mr. Rooney and Jim Holway, Ward 4 Representative, agreed with City Council President Shannon's comment.

2. Review Key Email Communications since last meeting (10 minutes)

Mr. Els stated there were about 75 emails that went back and forth between meetings. He would be happy to summarize them, or they could skip this piece of the agenda. Councilor Bushor stated she would prefer not to spend time reviewing emails. Mr. Holway stated he has created a webpage and discussion boards and suggested the Committee review them.

3. Discussion of Criteria for Selecting a Plan (15 Minutes)

Ms. Cook listed the criteria of equal representation, preserving neighborhoods, compactness, using existing geographic boundaries, minimizing change to existing wards, keeping the Old and New North Ends intact, council size and comments.

Mr. Holway stated that all of those issues are legal criteria for redistricting with the exception of council size. Ms. Cook stated people may have different opinions about some of the criteria. Mr. Holway stated he has several resources available about the legal requirements.

City Council President Shannon stated they should add consideration of the built environment that exists today. There are some developments that are built and occupied today. They have been advised that they need to have a systematic approach if they are to include them. There is not a huge amount of development in the City and it seems that through Planning and Zoning they would be able to add in those numbers. They should determine whether or not they will include new development since the census.

Mr. Rooney stated they should work to keep their existing NPA structure intact. Ms. Cook inquired if that would fit in with minimizing the impact to existing wards. Mr. Rooney stated it would.

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Ms. Terhune suggested that Council size should not be part of the criteria. Mr. Holway stated the further they deviate from what the law, the higher the chance of having the defend it. Council size should not be listed as part of the criteria. It is important to talk about. Assistant City Attorney Bergman stated the Committee's job is to divide the City up into districts that are equal in size. They are allowed to include all of those things. Council size could be a real consideration for them. The distinction between legal criteria and other criteria is misplaced. That relates to State Statute that concerns legislative districts, which is not what they are doing. They can certainly consider the size of the Council. They can also consider things like the School Board.

Councilor Bushor stated if they had decided if they were to have four wards with one councilor each, there would be a feeling that no one would be well served by that. This is a difficult issue because they are working to determine the number of wards and districts. They have a low limit and high limit of Councilor. It is a factor though it is not a driving force. The community all wants to have their voices heard. She does understand the reservation about why people do not want it on the list.

Ms. Cook stated the plan is to look at those criteria and evaluate different proposals. Someone may say that a plan does a good job of protecting neighborhoods, but others many not think it does so well. They can use this information to evaluate how the Committee feels about the plan and if there are any patterns that show in the group.

5. Review and Assess Redistricting Options

Modify and assess redistricting plans based on the plans identified at the 5/14 meeting:

- a. **8 Wards: 12 councilor**
- b. **8 Wards: 16 councilors**

Mr. Holway suggested they discuss the two 8 ward plans together. George Gamache, Ward 4 Representative, stated these wards are drawn from the original Redistricting Committee's 4 ward model. That model was opposed because people felt that it was too large of an area for someone to run in. They then divided each of these wards in half to create 8 wards. The original Redistricting Committee's 4 ward model has a lot of merit. When looking at the City of Burlington, you can divide it into four quadrants. Splitting them in half allows for 8 wards with 2 councilors each. The plan keeps the NNE intact, creates an area in the center city, creates an area in the University and Fletcher Allen area, and keeps the South End intact. An alternative would be to use the original four ward model to elect one councilor. That allows for four councilors elected quasi-at-large. There would then be eight more councilors elected in the wards. It is virtually identical to the 8 ward 16 councilor model, which would have 8 wards with 2 councilors each. He drew the maps to take advantage of major roadways. They also accounted for neighborhoods. If the Old North End is considered a neighborhood, there is no explanation for why people on Main Street are part of the same ward. This tightens up the cohesiveness of the New North End and creates an eighth ward that is close to the University of Vermont and Fletcher Allen. The other wards remain mostly intact.

City Council President Shannon inquired if the maps are exactly the same. Mr. Gamache stated they are. The map that exists now has ward 2 going from Main Street to the Intervale. He has spent his life working with homes, neighborhoods, and people and would never draw a neighborhood boundary that ran a mile long and two blocks wide. He is working to bring logic to the 8 ward model and this is the only way to do this and treat all quadrants equally.

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Ms. Cook stated they have done the calculations on this model and it has 9.6% deviation. She inquired how people feel about neighborhoods. Mr. Montroll stated this map breaks up ward 6 and creates boundaries between homes that have been part of the same neighborhood for a long time. He can see no rhyme or reason as to why they were broken up in this way. It would also do away with their NPA. He is not sure how it would benefit the City to break up the NPA. Mr. Gamache inquired what neighborhoods it would break up. Mr. Montroll stated that Summit Street and Overlake Park are really one street and are very residential. There is a line right through it. Summit Ridge, a dead end street, would be detached from their ward. It cuts out a significant part of Ward 6 that is not fair and cohesive. He does not feel that it works well for his ward.

Elisa Nelson, Ward 5 Representative, stated she sees serious problems in the heart of the City. Wards 1, 2, and 3 have been scrambled and not respected. She sees the Old North End being cut in half along Pearl and North Streets. Carving out a section for an 8th ward disrespects ward 1. She does not feel comfortable with that much change to the heart of the City. These are also some of the poorest neighborhoods in the City and she has concerns that they are being targeted to make math work somewhere else.

Jim Langan, Ward 1 Representative, stated he understands where the 8 ward plan is coming from and there may be a way to draw it so it respects the current boundaries more. There may have been a more logical way to draw wards 30 years ago, but since that time wards have morphed into neighborhoods. People have been going to their NPAs and consider that their neighborhood. This divides Ward 2 into four wards and it cuts through Ward 1. It is possible to create an 8 ward map that does less damage to the neighborhoods. Mr. Gamache stated he agrees that they can do that.

Mr. Rooney stated he sees a big problem with them making a university ward. University students are here temporarily and constructing a ward around them seems disastrous. They will not have a vested interest in who they elect. If they elect someone who lives in a dorm, they would not be able to serve. The result seems to be a primarily university ward. He also has concerns about how Wards 1, 2, 3, and 6 are broken up. He feels it is the wrong direction for keeping neighborhoods together.

Councilor Bushor stated she supports the concept of an 8 ward model, but feels there is a way to draw boundaries that do less harm. This cuts the essence out of ward 1. There are core neighborhoods that get together, make up the NPA and are the character of Ward 1. She understands the importance of keeping the Old and New North Ends intact. She hopes they will respect the need to keep as many of their existing neighborhoods throughout the City intact. Main Street is a natural boundary. There has been discussion that having too much of the university and institutions in one ward could be difficult for two councilors compared with four councilors. That is important when they are talking about real issues in the City. She understands the people who came tonight, but this does not serve them as well.

Councilor Siegel stated there are several things she is hesitant about with this map. She does not like the way that Ward 3 is configured. North Street is not a neighborhood boundary in Ward 3. Their neighborhood crosses North Street. Everything from Pearl Street to Manhattan Drive is connected. She is also wary of something with a 9.6% deviation because it is very likely they would have to go through this again in ten years. There is no way to add an 8th ward without affecting the configuration of all wards except 4 and 7.

Councilor Decelles inquired if the previous committee had developed an 8 ward 16 councilor model that kept almost every line how it was and had a smaller deviation than this model. Jay Appleton, Planning and Zoning, stated the 8 ward maps have all been based off of four ward maps. He would have to go back and

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look at them. Mr. Holway stated that map had a large deviation. Councilor Decelles stated these versions leave the New North End intact. The same arguments against this map are how people from Wards 4 and 7 feel about the 7 ward 13 councilor model. The New North End has had the Ward 4 and 7 NPA for a number of years. There are plenty of options to continue to keep the NPAs vital.

Nancy Greenwalt, Ward 3 Representative, stated she agrees that this scrambles the Old North End.

Mr. Els stated this plan obliterates the Old North End and scrambles up the NPAs. He feels the 8th ward is largely a student district. He loves students, but they are not the most engaged in City issues. He was intrigued by the precinct component. Someone brought up an at-large discussion that was quickly ignored. This seems almost like an at-large component when there is one Councilor representing two wards. He is unsure how that would affect the process of running for City Council. It will impact how they run their government.

City Council President Shannon stated this has been a better process than the last. There will be an appreciation that with whatever they come up with, they struggled with the decision. She does not know if they can do better, but they can do different. The nature of having more, smaller wards means that there are more lines and boundaries. This is what causes them problems. She is not sure if there is any street that really naturally divides a neighborhood. People's backyards are probably better dividing lines. They feel they are in a neighborhood with the people across the street. Realistically, there will have to be boundaries on streets to divide neighborhoods. The boundaries can change, but there will be problems with each change. This is particularly difficult in the Old North End where the density is high. Moving one block can make a huge difference in the number. To the extent that keeping neighborhoods intact is part of the criteria, fewer wards are better. There were comments at public forum that the area of the City with the largest voter turnout will have decreased representation. This plan increases representation in the student district. Smaller wards seems to accentuate the student impact, which is a group of people who are often not residents of the City of Burlington. She appreciates that feels unfair, but they have to abide by the law. To the extent that they incorporate these concentrated groups of students into a larger population of residents dilutes the impact. Small deviations are difficult in small wards. Having a high deviation may mean they have to redo this process after the next census. The first time the new wards will be used is 2015 and the next census will be 2020. They should allow for some deviation so they do not have to revisit this five years after it is implemented. She spoke with someone who said they would never run for Council because it is too big and meetings last too long. Having more people at the table lengthens the time they spend at the table. This may not be a concern of voters, but it is a concern of good governance and what the optimal group size is to govern the City. She would prefer the 8 ward 12 councilor plan to the 8 ward 16 councilor plan.

Mr. L'Ecuyer stated Wards 4 and 7 were commissioned with trying to keep neighborhoods intact and to do something that is fair and equitable for the City. They can do better. There is a large turnout of people from Wards 4 and 7. There have been comments that going with the 6 or 7 ward 13 councilor model will create divisiveness. These plans are not perfect and are not a finished product, but people in Wards 4 and 7 feel strongly that an eighth ward is the way to go.

Mr. Holway stated that when they are putting forward these maps, it is about flexibility. They worked to make sure they were being fair. They can look at this as a framework rather than a final plan. Some of the lines may be in the wrong place. The feeling in the New North End has been that a 13 councilor model is targeting them. He hopes they explore ways to recognize that the City has a lot of students after this redistricting. The idea that an eighth ward should be somewhere in that area came before they discussed

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having a UVM specific ward. It is about where growth happens. None of the time spent looking at any options was about targeting anyone. There is a better way and they are open to that. He hopes they keep the idea that it is a better way to use as a framework. The eighth ward is placed because it works mathematically. With a 13 Councilor model they take away a Councilor from the New North End. He is married to the idea that the math works with an 8 ward plan. They do not know what the census will do in the next five years. Because the City has been delayed, they are looking at redistricting again in 4-5 years. They cannot predict how populations will change and should not limit themselves from a plan with a high deviation.

Llu Mulvaney-Stanak, Ward 2 Representative, stated she does not support an 8 ward 12 or 16 councilor plan. The natural boundary that exists for Ward 2 is North Willard Street. There is a huge difference between this and going down North Street from North Willard. There are more homeowners in the hill section and more renters on the other side of North Willard. There are huge socioeconomic divides between those areas. Bringing those people together into an eighth ward does not make sense because people will not have the same concerns. It would be difficult for a Councilor to represent that ward and it would be difficult to choose issues for an NPA to come together on. It creates more challenges and affects many more wards.

- c. **6 Wards: 13 councilors**
- d. **7 Wards: 13 councilors**

Mr. Montroll stated the City's basic ward structure was created 40-50 years ago. One can debate if the lines were drawn the right way then, but that is how they were drawn. Since they were drawn, people have become invested in their wards and NPAs. Other than the New North End, the map is very close to what it was 40 years ago. That stability has given Burlington the ability to have public engagement and neighborhood strength. Most people in Burlington have grown up with these wards and know their wards because they have not changed much. They wanted to maintain the existing ward structure. They finally settled on a map that eliminates one Council member and combines the New North End into one Ward. They moved some dorms from Ward 1 to Ward 6. Once that was done, the numbers balanced out with minimal amounts of change. The two maps are virtually identical. There are minor changes, such as bringing Lakeview Terrace into Ward 3. They moved a few things between Wards 1 and 2. It maintains the character of the wards. People in every ward of the City want this stability. He appreciates that the New North End is losing a Councilor, but on both maps, the same number of people would remain in the New North End. That represents about 24% of the City. In the 13 councilor map, 3 councilors in the New North End represent 23% of the Council. It is 2% off of what the number would be in the 8 ward map, because 4 out of 16 would be 25%. This would allow the right percent of Councilors to represent the New North End and would allow people to remain in the neighborhood they have lived in for years. This balances the plan.

Mr. Gamache stated it is clear when deciding to go to 13 councilors where the reduction will come from. The political deal that is being offered is not a choice. They are being offered to be one ward with three councilors, in which case the candidates have to run to get the majority of the vote from 10,000 people while everyone else that runs will need a majority of a smaller base. Those three Councilors are the only ones across the City who have to run for the votes of a large population. The other offer is to make it two wards with one councilor in a ward and two councilors in the other, they single out one small group of people and tell them they can only have one. It is not fair to ask a small group of people to have less representation than the rest of the City is entitled to. He understands the piece where the population works, but the Center City and South End will have more than 61% of the City Council. The proposal they had was to divide it equally and fairly and treat everyone the same.

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Mr. Holway stated the emotional reasons depend on the part of the City a person lives in. People will favor what it feels like affects them the least. The City is very different than it was 40 years ago. There are a lot of good points about the maps and they are similar. Their job is to balance the numbers. The two maps look very similar, but there are line changes. They are being offered this idea that the other part of town can remain the way they like it and the New North End can adjust. He wants people to understand that they are making a different political environment in one part of the City than another. The point of 8 wards 16 councilors is that it works mathematically for all of the problems. Wards may advocate for small line changes, but he hopes they can use that as a framework.

City Council President Shannon stated there is an accusation that there is a political deal but does not see this as an issue of party. This is not her favorite plan but she does not feel that there are political motives. There is an idea that decreasing proportional representation in the New North End is unfair, but it is the task they have been assigned. That does not make a lot of active voters happy, but it is their assignment. Fairness is defined by the law and limiting people to one person one vote. Three councilors would have to run in a larger ward, which can be challenging. There are also advantages for constituents having three councilors to turn to. In the New North End, people do not always turn to the Councilor in their ward. There could be some advantages to the constituents, although the constituents in the room do not seem to feel that way. She would not want to live in a ward with only one Councilor. She feels that having three councilors would give them an advantage. There are a lot of ways to divvy this up that are fair. As long as they meet the deviation, they have equal representation. She does not love the existing boundaries and is not married to them. Change is hard for people, so the citizens probably want a plan with less change. She thinks that they can do better. The fairest way to break up neighborhoods is four wards, but that does not seem to interest people. This seems fair to her and minimizes change. There are some problems with breaking up neighborhoods, but they are ones they have been living with for so long they are no longer problems.

Mr. Els stated this keeps the Old North End intact. The debate is now about representation, which is a 2% shift. He would not mind seeing a four ward map. He did some research about cities in the country roughly the size of Burlington and found that almost all of them had councils of 10 people or less. Burlington is doing a great job in representing people.

Ms. Greenwalt stated it makes sense to keep the wards together as much as possible and this map does that. It is possible that the 8 ward 16 councilor map could be drawn better but it is hard to compare without having seen it. She also stated it is reasonable to think about fewer councilors.

Councilor Decelles stated he has heard a lot of talk about disenfranchising poor Old North End voters and placing them in with the rich. The reality is, every ward has the same issue. The New North End has a trailer park, a Bantu population, an affordable housing complex, millionaires, middle class folks, and renters. The argument about targeting a population could be applied to the New North End. There is also something to be said about political balance. It makes for a better government to have different voices at the table. He would not support this map because it would never pass. They need to pick something that they could sell to the City Council and the voters. Telling 10,000 people in the New North End they are losing a representative because of college kids will not work.

Councilor Siegel stated this meets all of their criteria. It also results in a council with an odd number of councilors, which she feels is an important goal. The terminology of 'losing a councilor' that is being used is emotionally wrought and is not relevant to the task at hand. The goal is proportionate representation. People

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have asked her how she would feel about being a lone Councilor or only having one representative in the Old North End and she feels it is a non-issue. She often refers constituents to other Councilors in different wards who may be more involved in the issue they are concerned about. They all work together. She helps people who do not live in her ward. The larger ward idea would certainly give them a more homogenous council. She does not agree that they could not get this to pass because the New North End does not like it. If the group worked together to sell the plan it could be done.

Councilor Bushor stated that she also feels diversity is important and they should consider that. It is difficult when there is not adequate representation from one political party or another. She would be on board with this if there wasn't such resistance from the New North End. The reality is that a geographic area of Burlington currently has four councilors and they will then be told they only have three. She knows that it is fair and equitable and is part of their task, but she would feel like her representation was diminished if she lived there. There have been years that they have been divided into two wards and it may be hard to make it back together. She suggested that there could be another part of the City that could have three city councilors. She is open to either plan. Mr. Montroll stated he looked at the option of having three councilors in Ward 1 and that could be done. It would leave everyone else with similar size. Ward 1 had about 1,500 too many people. Doing that made it very difficult to keep boundaries similar to how they are.

Mr. Rooney stated students are housed in an area that they can carefully delineate. That distorts how they think of the City. It affects each ward in a different way. Wards 4 and 7 are affected as well because the population has decreased as a percentage of the overall population of the city because of the addition of students. Having thirteen councilors is a reasonable numerical solution to the problem. He agrees that it would be hard to go from a ward with two councilors to one councilor. He would be happier with a ward with three councilors than he would with a one councilor ward. He prefers this model to the 7 ward 13 councilor model. The option is always there to keep wards 4 and 7 separate, but he does not feel it would be as nice for the residents.

Ms. Mulvaney-Stanak stated she does not feel the group is going to find a consensus and it will come down to a majority decision. Wards, districts and counties often do not always have the same numbers of representatives. She understands the feeling that they will be down a representative, but at the end of the day it is about population. She hopes the committee could post these standards for the public so that they understand how these decisions were made.

Mr. Langan stated trying to keep the deviation under 10% and keeping the Old and New North Ends intact is difficult and there are only a few basic frameworks that work. This is one of them. It has strengths in stability. It does have drawbacks as well. The other model that works is the four ward model. This does the best job of meeting the criteria they selected.

Ms. Nelson stated this plan matches best with what constituents have told her. They want to make minor adjustments to the lines and do not want to redraw the City. There is talk about taking representation away, but the goal is to make representation even across the board. There is a geographic portion to that which is difficult, but it is the reality of what they were doing. They have to make hard choices. She is concerned about the 8 ward 12 councilor model and noted that having councilors representing different amounts of people creates a hierarchy.

Mr. L'Ecuyer stated he cannot support this model. The plan does not address the demographic shift of where the population changed. He does not like the idea that they should ignore college students because they are

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transient and non-participatory. That only worsens the problem. The City hopes to maintain a vibrant youth population and pushing them aside does an injustice. Having two wards in the New North End with a different number of councilors is a bad idea. Having three councilors will change the politics of the ward because other councilors will not have to knock on as many doors.

e. Other (TBD by larger committee)

6. Public Forum

Mr. Matson stated that there are tradeoffs that will have to be made between what representation is and keeping neighborhoods intact.

Ms. Terhune spoke about census blocks and how they do not always coordinate with neighborhoods. She spoke against having a large ward in the New North End. She spoke about how the New North End protects wetlands. She spoke against the 13 councilor models.

Greg Roy, Ward 4 Resident, stated that there are problems with carving up areas of the City and does not want that done to ward 4, just like others don't want that done to their wards.

Councilor Ayres stated he is now more in favor of the 8 ward 12 councilor hybrid plan because it creates four districts where neighborhoods that are currently together can come back together. It is a compromise between the two polarized approaches. The process should be about the essence of democracy in Vermont which is face to face interaction with constituents.

Mr. Wright stated they should not impose something on the New North End that they would not want done to themselves. He is ok with a smaller council, but not at the New North End's expense. It will make it more difficult to recruit candidates. He does not think that having an odd number of councilors is very important and does not want them to base their decision on what they think will happen in the next census.

Ms. Patterson stated it would be difficult to campaign in the entire New North End. She spoke in favor of an 8 ward 16 councilor plan.

Mr. Ireland stated they should not be concerned about how difficult it is for politicians to run for office. The 8 ward map met the criteria.

7. Review and Approve May14 Meeting Minutes

The committee postponed action on approving the May 14 minutes.

8. Process for June 6 Meeting

Ms. Cook inquired if the committee would like to consider the 4 ward proposal at the next meeting. 7 committee members raised their hands.

Councilor Bushor stated that the 8 ward proposal as presented was not supported by a lot of people but that there was a willingness to draw lines differently. She would like the group have a chance to look at that

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before they have to make a decision. Mr. Holway stated there has been a lot of ground covered between meetings. He hopes that they can sit down and see what items they cannot resolve.

City Council President Shannon stated there is an open meeting law and that email discussions about committee work are not permissible. Assistant City Attorney Bergman stated that you cannot work in groups that would constitute a quorum. Anything that they say is public as members of this group. Mr. Rooney inquired if that needs to be filed somewhere. Assistant City Attorney Bergman stated it does not need to be filed but it needs to be made available if someone were to request it. City Council President Shannon inquired if they can discuss committee work in groups with more than a quorum. Assistant City Attorney Bergman stated they cannot do it in a way that would constitute a meeting. If it were done over the course of five days then it may be ok. When they are acting as a group and conversing about a subject, the closer it is to a chat room, the harder it is to defend. He just suggested that they be careful. He noted the steering committee is potentially public as well.

9. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.