

## CITY OF OAKLAND REDISTRICTING COMMISSION (REGULAR MEETING)

#### **Meeting Minutes**

#### Wednesday, February 10, 2021 Via Teleconference

Redistricting Commissioners: Benjie Achtenberg, Amber Blackwell, Daniel Chesmore (Alternate), Gloria Crowell, Lilibeth Gangas, Shirley Gee, Stephanie Goode, Masoud Hamidi, Paul Marshall, Tracy Richmond McKnight, Diana Miller, Tejal Shah, Jan Stevens, and Mary Velasco.

Commission website: www.oaklandca.gov/redistricting

## 1. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

Quorum was determined and the meeting started at 5:05 pm.

Commissioners present: Benjie Achtenberg, Amber Blackwell, Lilibeth Gangas, Stephanie Goode, Masoud Hamidi, Paul Marshall, Tracy Richmond McKnight, Diana Miller, Tejal Shah, Jan Stevens, and Mary Velasco.

Commissioners excused: Gloria Crowell, Shirley Gee.

Commissioners absent: None.

Alternate Commissioners present: Daniel Chesmore.

Alternate Commissioners absent: None.

City staff present: Richard J. Luna, Corey Alvin.

City Attorney staff present: Mitesh Bhakta.

#### 2. Open Forum

There were no public comments on this item.

#### 3. Disclosure Requirements by Commissioners

There were no disclosures by Commissioners.

There were no public comments on this item.

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**Meeting Minutes (Continued)** 

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### 4. Approval of Meeting Minutes

The Commission reviewed the draft meeting minutes. A motion was made by Mary Velasco, seconded by Jan Stevens, to approve the minutes for the meeting of January 13, 2021. The motion passed with 11 ayes (Achtenberg, Blackwell, Gangas, Goode, Hamidi, Marshall, McKnight, Miller, Shah, Stevens, Velasco) and two excused (Crowell, Gee).

There were no public comments for this item.

#### 5. Redistricting Consultant Selection

City staff member Richard J. Luna presented an overview of the process taken by the Consultant Selection Ad Hoc Committee to recommend that Redistricting Partners be hired as the consultant to assist the Commission. Commissioners engaged with Paul Mitchell, Owner of Redistricting Partners, in questions and answers about the redistricting process and scope of work the firm would provide to the Commission. Paul Mitchell also introduced two members of the project team in attendance: Sophia Garcia and Kimi Shigetani.

A motion was made by Tracy Richmond McKnight, seconded by Diana Miller, to approve Redistricting Partners as the Commission's consultant. The motion passed with 11 ayes (Achtenberg, Blackwell, Gangas, Goode, Hamidi, Marshall, McKnight, Miller, Shah, Stevens, Velasco) and two excused (Crowell, Gee).

There were no public comments for this item.

#### 6. Ad Hoc Committee Updates

On behalf of the Bylaws and Rules of Procedure Ad Hoc Committee, City staff member Richard J. Luna stated the committee will meet one more time to address Rule 24 regarding filling vacancies for Alternate Commissioners.

On behalf of the Community Outreach Ad Hoc Committee, Commissioner Diana Miller provided an update on the committee's plans for conducting outreach during the current health pandemic, including starting with the City's neighborhood services and/or religious services group meetings to test receiving feedback on identifying communities of interests. Chair Benjie Achtenberg stated the committee is working with staff to collect data sets the Commission can consider, and that those data sets could be categorized into five key areas: Housing, Business/Economics, Public Health and Green/Open Space, Social Services, and Schools/Education. Commissioners also discussed opportunities to receive public input while maintaining and achieving equitable representation from participants, by providing multiple avenues to engage with the Commission.

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Commissioner Lilibeth Gangas was excused from the meeting at 5:59 pm.

On behalf of the Communications Ad Hoc Committee, Commissioner Stephanie Goode provided an overview of the draft list of potential community based and faith based partner organizations included in the Agenda packet. Commissioners were informed they could add to the list of organizations by coordinating with City staff. Committee members discussed proposed updates to the Commission's website, revisions to the frequently asked questions, creating additional informational resources, and continuing their work on a social media toolkit. Commissioners discussed opportunities to develop a geographic map of the organizations and to categorize the groups so gaps in the Commission's outreach efforts could be addressed.

Public comments were provided by:

**David Peters** 

# 7. Oral Report of Redistricting Training Held by Common Cause

City staff member Richard J. Luna stated the redistricting training materials from Common Cause were included via a URL in the Agenda packet, and recommended the Commissioners and public watch the webinar to gain more information on the redistricting process. Commissioners who attended the training provided remarks, stating the training was useful and informative.

There were no public comments on this item.

#### 8. Agenda Requests for Future Meetings

There were no requests for new Agenda items.

There were no public comments on this item.

## 9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm.