



For more information, Contact:

Angee Grimmage, City Clerk

City of Winter Garden

300 West Plant Street

Winter Garden, FL 34787

407.656.4111 Ext. 2297

CityClerk@cwgd.com

DISTRICTING COMMISSION

BOARD MEMBERS

District 1 – John Murphy
District 2 – Steve Dolgin
District 3 – Myron Brown
District 4 – Selenia Roldan
District 5 – Derek Blakeslee

OTHER ATTENDEES

City Manager Mike Bollhoefer
Interim City Manager Jon Williams
City Attorney J. Giffin Chumley
City Clerk Angee Grimmage
GIS Coordinator Alan Booker

RE: **AGENDA – Monday, October 25, 2021 - 6:00 p.m.**
City Hall, 300 West Plant Street, Winter Garden, Florida

- 1. Call to order**
Determination of Quorum
- 2. Approval of Minutes – October 13, 2021**
- 3. Public comments** (*Limited to 3 minutes per speaker*)
- 4. Staff presentation and discussion of proposed new commission district boundaries**
- 5. Adjournment**

Future Tentative Meeting Dates:

November 18, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.

December 1, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.

December 8, 2021 – 6:00 p.m.

NOTICES:

In accordance with Florida Statutes 286.0105, if any person decides to appeal any decision made by said body with respect to any matter considered at such meeting, he/she will need a record of the proceedings and, for that purpose, he/she may need to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made, which record includes the testimony and evidence upon which the appeal is to be based. The City of Winter Garden does not prepare or provide such record.

Pursuant to Florida Statutes 282.601, 286.603, 286.26 and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the City of Winter Garden makes every effort to ensure that those with disabilities have access to electronic information provided to the public, except when compliance with those sections impose an undue burden on the agency. In the event of difficulty accessing this publicly provided information and persons with disabilities needing assistance to participate in any of these proceedings, please contact the City Clerk's Office at (407) 656-4111, Ext. 2297, for assistance.



City of Winter Garden

DISTRICTING COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES

October 13, 2021

A **REGULAR** meeting of the City of Winter Garden Districting Commission was called to order by Assistant City Manager Jon Williams at City Hall, 300 West Plant Street, Winter Garden, Florida on Wednesday, October 13, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

District 5 (At-large) – Derek Blakeslee, **Chair**
District 2 – Steve Dolgin, **Vice-Chair**
District 3 – Myron Brown
District 4 – Selenia Roldan

OTHERS PRESENT

Assistant City Manager Jon Williams
City Attorney J. Giffin Chumley
City Clerk Angee Grimage
GIS Coordinator Alan Booker

MEMBERS ABSENT: District 1 – John Murphy

ALSO ATTENDING: Orange County GIS Coordinator Mason Guinto
Orange County League of Women Voters Susan Adams

1. Call to Order

Determination of quorum was established.

2. Welcome and introductions

Assistant City Manager of Public Services Jon Williams welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Districting Commission. He addressed the purpose of the Districting Commission and efforts to keep City Commissioners in their districts, maintain that the City's boundaries as contiguous and compact, maintaining continuity, striving for equality in population, maintaining racial fairness, maintaining partisan fairness, and maintaining District 3. Mr. Williams then recognized all attending Districting Commissioners, the City Attorney and staff to introduce themselves.

3. Selection of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

The Districting Commission discussed selections for Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.

Motion by Districting Commissioner Roldan to appoint Derek Blakeslee as Chairperson and Steve Dolgin as Vice-Chairperson. Seconded by Districting Commissioner Brown and carried unanimously 4-0.

The Districting Commission discussed potentially having a separate meeting for the public to review proposed maps; it was noted that the public would have an opportunity for

comments at all meetings. There was also discussion on potential future meeting dates, content to be covered, anticipated timelines and presentation to the City Commission. There was discussion on the purpose and duties of the Districting Commission with emphasis on decisions for setting boundaries and maps for all four districts. It was noted that the Districting Commission does not have the authority to form new districts.

There was discussion and clarification on the source of the data and population numbers for each district to be reviewed. Assistant City Manager of Public Services Williams distributed and noted maps made available for review, showing existing boundaries and a proposed map as a starting point.

4. Sunshine law and criteria for considering new district boundaries

City Attorney J. Giffin Chumley provided a PowerPoint presentation (Attached - **Exhibit A**) regarding Sunshine law and criteria for considering new district boundaries. Mr. Chumley indicated that he would cover items for the board members, especially those never having been seated on a public board. He proceeded to cover the Sunshine Law, public records law and guidelines for the redistricting function. Mr. Chumley also addressed the Equal Protection Clause of the United States Constitution, Voters Rights Act of 1965 and Section 25 of the City's Charter. Copies of the presentation were distributed.

5. Establish regular meeting schedule – tentative hearing dates and times

This item was addressed later in the meeting after Item 6.

There was discussion on the next meeting and potential future meeting dates in consideration of completing the task within the 120-day requirement. After some discussion on when the City Hall Chambers would be available for meetings, the following tentative dates were selected:

October 27, 2021	6:00 p.m.
November 18, 2021	6:00 p.m.
December 1, 2021	6:00 p.m.
December 8, 2021	6:00 p.m.

There was discussion on whether remote attendance would be an option and the definition of a quorum was noted as meaning physical attendance. There was discussion on map options only being distributed and received at the meetings. City Attorney Chumley cautioned that when considering other methods of receiving information outside of the meetings could potentially violate Sunshine Laws.

6. Adoption of rules of procedure

There was discussion on numbering maps as they are presented to the Districting Commission; noting Map 1 as the City proposed starting point and Map 2 as that presented by Districting Commissioner Dolgin. It was noted that unless a map is presented and adopted for consideration for further discussion, it would not be counted

as an official submission. Discussion ensued as to any work done with City GIS Coordinator Alan Booker and official map submissions.

There was discussion on the group reviewing maps individually, as a group, staff providing block information and online available software programs. Also discussed were potential issues with making certain information public. Other discussions related to challenges with software programs not allowing blocks to be broken and potential re-estimation issues. It was noted that any staff items sent to a member should be sent through the City Clerk's office as part of the Districting Commission's correspondence for distribution to all members. Potential use of a portal and/or file transfer program was also discussed.

City Attorney Chumley noted that any information should be shared at the meeting, made a part of the record, and made available to the public through the City Clerk's office.

Districting Commissioner Brown inquired of supporting Census data relating to the existing demographic makeup being shared with the Districting Commission. Discussion ensued on staff providing demographic breakdown information related to race, ethnicity, and age. It was noted that partisan affiliation was not a factor with this all being non-partisan. There was discussion on ethnicity, the concept of cracking in politics, equal representation, related past litigation, history relating to minority/majority districting, and current data. There was discussion on demographic breakdowns for all maps presented. Also discussed were efforts to refrain from break up blocks, core constituency, neighborhoods and an overall effort to preserve the integrity of the districts.

There was discussion on items submitted by Districting Commissioner Dolgin. It was noted that a copy should also be sent to Districting Commissioner Murphy for review. The Districting Commission discussed reviewing information presented and preparations for possible live review of maps at the next meeting.

The Districting Commission discussed their meeting schedule at this point in the meeting.

There was discussion on City GIS Coordinator Booker providing demographics for the proposed and existing maps for distribution to the Districting Commission for review.

7. Public Comments

Districting Commissioner Blakeslee opened the public hearing.

Bruce Schobel, City resident, addressed concerns regarding district boundaries, which may run down the middle of streets versus Homeowner's Association (HOA) boundaries, which do not. He indicated that these HOA boundaries could oftentimes run down backyards and inquired as to which choice would win. City Attorney Chumley responded

that this would go toward the protection of communities, which would be a concurrent interest going along with having boundaries that run down the middle of the street. Mr. Chumley noted that the mandatory criteria would be the population numbers; also observing the Equal Protection Act and Voters Rights Act. Districting Commissioner Blakeslee noted that we tend to go to streets outside of communities. Discussion ensued on examples of those communities.

Susan Adams, representative and observer for the Orange County League of Women Voters, inquired of the map-drawing platform used. City GIS Coordinator Booker responded that it is ArcMap, which is Esri, the program's free district builder.

Ms. Adams inquired as to whether the public could submit maps. Districting Commissioner Blakeslee affirmed, noting that these would be submitted to the City Clerk or submitted at one of the Districting Commission meetings. City Attorney Chumley interjected that enough copies should be provided for distribution to the Districting Commission and to the City Clerk for the record.

Districting Commissioner Blakeslee, after hearing and seeing no additional public comments, closed the public hearing.

Districting Commissioner Dolgin inquired of backup data for maps brought to the meetings or submitted by the public. It was noted that this responsibility of back up data falls upon the Districting Commission regarding maps accepted for consideration.

Assistant City Manager of Public Services Williams thanked everyone for their willingness to serve.

8. Adjournment

Motion by Districting Commissioner Roldan to adjourn. Seconded by Districting Commissioner Brown and carried unanimously 4-0.

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Prepared by:

Approved by:

Angela Grimmage, City Clerk

Districting Commissioner