NORMAN REAPPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

MINUTES

July 8, 2013

The Reapportionment Commission of the City of Norman, Cleveland County, State of Oklahoma met in Annual Session in Conference Room D of Building A of the Norman Municipal Building at 201 West Gray Street on Monday, July 8, 2013, at 7:30 p.m., and notice and agenda of the meeting were posted at the Norman Municipal Building, 201 West Gray at least 24 hours prior to the beginning of the meeting and at http://www.normanok.gov/content/board-agendas.

Item No. 1, being:
CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lea Greenleaf called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m.

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Item No. 2, being:
ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT	David Morgan Phoebe Schmitz Lea Greenleaf Ted Metscher Cheryl Clayton Karl Jahnke
MEMBERS ABSENT	James Sheffield Jonathan Leavey Chadwick Cox

A quorum was present.

STAFF PRESENT	Susan Connors, Director Roné Tromble, Administrative Technician

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Item No. 3, being:
ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Chair Greenleaf asked for nominations for the position of Chair.

David Morgan nominated Cheryl Clayton for election to the position of Chair. Phoebe Schmitz seconded the nomination. There were no further nominations.

Chair Greenleaf asked for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair.

David Morgan nominated Ted Metscher for election to the position of Vice-Chair. Cheryl Clayton seconded the nomination. There were no further nominations.

Chair Greenleaf asked for nominations for the position of Secretary.

David Morgan nominated Chadwick Cox for election to the position of Secretary. Ted Metscher seconded the nomination. There were no further nominations.

The slate of officers was elected by a unanimous vote.

Chair Greenleaf turned control of the meeting over to new Chair Clayton.

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Item No. 4, being:
APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JULY 9, 2012 MEETING

Lea Greenleaf moved to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2012 meeting, as submitted. Karl Jahnke seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the motion to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2012 meeting, as submitted, was adopted by a unanimous vote.

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Item No. 5, being:
DISCUSSION OF ANNUAL POPULATION FIGURES AND THEIR EFFECT ON THE CITY'S WARD SYSTEM.

ITEMS SUBMITTED FOR THE RECORD

1. Staff Memo
2. Statistics for 2013 Reapportionment Commission Review of City Council Wards
3. City of Norman Council Wards map

DISCUSSION BY THE COMMISSION

Mr. Morgan noted there is a 10.55% deviation between wards, which is considerably higher than last year. He asked how the numbers would compare to past years when a change was recommended. Ms. Clayton commented that in the past the deviation has been as high as 23%. Ten percent is kind of a rule of thumb. The City Council does not like to make changes in the wards, so in the past the Commission has waited until a change really needs to be made. There were no changes made from 2005 to 2011. During that time, the Commission made recommendations for changes but the Council did not adopt them. Ms. Schmitz noted that in 2010 the deviation was over 27%. Ms. Connors added that the City Council knows they have to look at this differently at the time of the census than during the intervening years.

Ms. Connors asked what happened in 2005 that a change was made. Ms. Clayton responded that the change was made in 2004. In 2003, Hall Parks was annexed. In 2004, the deviation was 15.98%, so it was adjusted and went down to 10.87% in 2005. In 2006, it was 16.96%; 2007 – 19.1%; 2008 – 19.9%, and it went up higher from there. In 2010 the Council elected not to adopt the Commission's recommendation for ward adjustments because the census was coming up.

Mr. Greenleaf commented that at the time of the census the Cleveland County Election Board was also doing new precinct assignments, so it fell into line to make a change in 2011 because the precinct lines were going to change whether the ward boundaries changed or not. He does not think we will be able to go as long without a change as the period from 2005 to 2011.

David Morgan moved that the Reapportionment Commission recommend to the City Council that no changes be made to the Ward boundaries. Karl Jahnke seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the motion was adopted by a unanimous vote.

Ms. Connors noted that there is potential for development to happen along Indian Hills Road in Ward 8. Ms. Clayton commented that growth in any of the wards, other than Ward 5 and Ward 6, would help the deviation. Ms. Connors added that housing on OU property is not counted.

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Item No. 6, being:
MISCELLANEOUS DISCUSSION
None

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Item No. 7, being:
ADJOURNMENT

David Morgan moved for adjournment. Ted Metscher seconded the motion. There being no further discussion and no objection, the meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Passed and approved this 14th day of July, 2014.

Norman Reapportionment Commission