

CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE
Redistricting & Related Topics
Subcommittee

Date: Tuesday, June 26, 2007
Time: 6:00 PM
Place: Railroad Depot Room, 2nd Floor, Sanford City Hall,
300 N. Park Avenue, Sanford, Florida 32771

Present: Jason Brodeur
James Davis
Robert J. Kinney

Attorney: William L. Colbert
Janet Dougherty
Sherman Yehl

Call to Order

Mr. Davis called the meeting to order at 6:11PM.

Approval of Minutes of June 7, 2007

Mr. Kinney moved to approve the Minutes. Seconded by Mr. Brodeur and carried by a vote of the Committee as follows:

Jason Brodeur	Aye
James Davis	Aye
Robert J. Kinney	Aye

Discussion with City Attorney William L. Colbert

Mr. Colbert discussed the history of the City of Sanford, where we are and legally where we can go. He stated the DeLattibeaudiere et al vs. Sanford et al case of 1983 was caused by the city's history of electing its Commissioners at large and people tended to vote in blocks which tended to dilute or diminish the opportunity for minorities to elect people to the Commission. Mr. Colbert stated the presiding judge was Judge Young, the plaintiffs in this case were African Americans and the lawsuit was filed by individuals through their attorneys. He stated the goal of the lawsuit was to bring the districts in such a way that an African American would have an opportunity and probability of being elected and representing their constituents on the commission.

CRC Redistricting & Related Topics Subcommittee

Mr. Colbert stated the parties looked into the number of districts; analysis was done by all to divide the city into four equally populated districts, they agreed the purpose was to be sure at least one of those areas had the capability statistically of electing minority people to office, Judge Young pointed out the mid census data was an estimate and didn't meet the essential requirements of the law, it was agreed adjustments were to be made using the hard data or decennial census data not the estimate, the adjustment was done in 1990, however, it was not done in 2000 and in December 2006 an Ordinance was passed effectively redistricting the city using the 2000 census data. He stated a requirement is in Ordinance form that within 30 days of receiving hard census data the city has to initiate the process to redistrict the city in accordance with the hard data.

Mr. Colbert stated the presiding judge in the lawsuit between the United States vs. Osceola County was Judge Presnell, was caused by Hispanics and filed by the Department of Justice on behalf of those people in Osceola County. He stated that both lawsuits are similar.

Mr. Colbert stated from a legal standpoint the city has done everything it can legally do.

Mr. Davis stated the districts can be redrawn based on the 2000 census data, be balanced, meet the obligation of following along contiguous lines and district 2 would not be diluted. He stated he will present an outline of the districts at the next Charter Review Committee meeting.

The Redistricting & Related Topics Subcommittee concurred it was not necessary to have any additional meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25PM.

CHAIRMAN

Attest:

Secretary

jk