

Approved 7/28/2021

Board of Registrars Meeting

Thursday, June 24, 2021 3:00 PM

55 Church Street, Lower Level Conference Room

MINUTES

Members present: Wendy McNally, Chair, Connell Benn, Anne Fortier, Kaari Mai Tari, Town Clerk

Others present: Karlen Reed

Choosing Officers

Wendy McNally was chosen unanimously as Chair. Kaari will take minutes.

Review and Approval of Minutes

The following minutes were distributed for review and will be voted at the next meeting.

11/9/2020

11/13/2020

3/25/2021

Review of draft precinct map based on 2020 Census population figures

The draft precinct map from the Secretary of the Commonwealth's Census Division was displayed for review. They have offered to provide an alternate map if it is helpful. Since Concord's is not split between several representative or congressional districts, the only impact of precinct changes is on the polling location on election day.

Precinct 3 is the only precinct that is unchanged in the draft precinct map. It was noted that it can be challenging for voters to face change when they have become so accustomed to voting at one polling location. There was discussion about the various polling locations and which one would be best suited to each precinct.

Changes to precincts and polling locations will be communicated through the annual census newsletter and an additional mailing prior to the first election in 2022. A robo call right before the election will also be helpful.

The new layout for precinct 4 covers a longer and narrower area, making it difficult to find a location that is centrally accessible for the entire precinct. Kaari will ask for an alternate map and also confirm the maximum population allowed for each precinct.

Possible future polling locations

The current polling locations are:

Precinct 1: 141 Keyes Rd (22 Monument Square has also been used)

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Precincts 2 & 3: Harvey Wheeler Community Center, 1276 Main Street
Precinct 4: Ripley School, 120 Meriam Rd
Precinct 5: Hunt Gym, 90 Stow St

The Registrars would like to use more centralized polling location, including 141 Keyes Rd and the Town House. Ripley School could serve as a backup in the event of an evacuation. A building that could accommodate all precincts like the armory would be ideal.

The Concord Municipal Light Plant: it will be too hard to access because of traffic at the rotary and schools are limited because of safety issues.

The meeting ended at 4:28 pm.