

**Commission on Reapportionment  
Meeting Minutes**

**DATE & TIME:** January 7, 2021; 6:00 PM  
**LOCATION:** Powered by Zoom Meeting by Dialing (646) 558-8656,  
Meeting ID: 940 6111 9256  
**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Scott Minkoff (Interim Chair)  
**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Fawn A. Tantillo  
**PRESENT:** Commissioners Sarah DeStefano, Andy Monk and Travis  
Rask  
**ABSENT:** None  
**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes  
**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Ulster County Legislator Brian Cahill; John Quigley, Board  
of Elections Commissioner

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Commission Clerk Tantillo called the meeting to order at approximately 6:00 and asked commissioners to introduce themselves.

Ms. Tantillo opened the discussion of selecting an interim Chairperson.

**Motion No. 1: Motion to Chair by rotation with Commissioner Minkoff starting and then alphabetically**

**Motion By:** Commissioner DeStefano

**Motion Seconded By:** Commissioner Monk

**Discussion:** None

**Voting in Favor:** Commissioners DeStefano, Minkoff, Monk and Rask

**Voting Against:** None

**No. of Votes in Favor:** 4

**No. of Votes Against:** 0

**Disposition:** Commissioners will rotate the role of interim Chair beginning with Commissioner Minkoff tonight and then alphabetically until the entire committee can meet.

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Chair Minkoff lead the Commissioners in a discussion of their charge to select three more Commissioners from the pool of candidates provided by the County Executive on or before January 15<sup>th</sup>.

They agreed they needed more information on the candidates and discussed how to gather additional information in order to make those choices in this short timeframe. It was not clear if this pool of candidates were vetted for eligibility and there was no demographic information other than general mailing addresses.

In an effort to confirm eligibility and gather other demographic data, a questionnaire was outlined that could be emailed to the pool of about 65 candidates.

Chair Minkoff agreed to develop the final questionnaire and send it to fellow Commissioners for input before Clerk Tantillo sent it out on Friday.

The Commissioners scheduled three Zoom meetings for the following week at 6:00 on Tuesday, January 12, Wednesday, January 13 and Thursday, January 14 to discuss the results of the questionnaires and make a decision before the January 15<sup>th</sup> deadline.

Chair Minkoff asked if there was any other business, hearing none;

**Motion to Adjourn**

**Motion Made By:** Commissioner DeStefano

**Motion Seconded By:** Commissioner Rask

**No. of Votes in Favor:** 4

**No. of Votes Against:** 0

**Time:** 6:37 PM

**Respectfully submitted by:** Fawn Tantillo

**Minutes Approved:** January 28, 2021

Commission on Reapportionment  
Meeting Transcript

DATE & TIME: January 12, 2021; 6:00 PM  
LOCATION: Powered by Zoom Meeting by Dialing (646) 558-8656, Meeting ID: 956 5023 7364  
PRESIDING OFFICER: Sarah DeStefano (Interim Chair)  
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Fawn A. Tantillo  
PRESENT: Commissioners Scott Minkoff, Andy Monk and Travis Rask  
ABSENT: None  
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes  
  
OTHER ATTENDEES: Ulster County Legislator Albert Bruno; Patricia Doxsey, Kingston Freeman

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Fawn Tantillo

Okay. So, Scott, I still have you listed as the interim Chairman. I thought we just continue these meetings. That's what you intended. Right?

Scott Minkoff

Well, I think that we I think there was a general sense that we would rotate.

Fawn Tantillo

Okay.

Scott Minkoff

I mean, well, I'm happy to do it. I'm also it seems like rotation might be in the interest of general fairness.

Fawn Tantillo

If we do it alphabetically, then it would be Sarah.

Sarah DeStefano

Sure.

Fawn Tantillo

Okay. So, you want to call the meeting to order and then you can just open your discussion on candidates?

Sarah DeStefano

Sure. Do we have a motion to call the meeting to order? Or, sorry, no,

Fawn Tantillo

You don't need a motion to call the meeting to order? You do need to adjourn. That's all right. You can just call it to order that's

Sarah DeStefano

Ok, then calling it to order. Hey. Not very good parliamentary procedure. My apologies.

Fawn Tantillo

That's alright. That's why am here to help.

Sarah DeStefano

Now. I do have the ...I can share my screen or if one of you wants to share your screen with the answers Oh, provided or anything like that. I can.

Scott Minkoff

Why don't... my suggestion. Do we all just curious, does everybody have it up on their own computer?

Sarah DeStefano

Yes.

Scott Minkoff

we can. I can make a link to it available in the chat. If people want to do it that way. We don't have to cloud up the screen with it. But I'll leave that to you, Sarah.

Sarah DeStefano

I think that's a good way of going about it too.

Scott Minkoff

Give me a moment.

Sarah DeStefano

I'm also not sure to what extent it should be. All this should be publicly available at the moment. Fawn, you have a sense of that.

Fawn Tantillo

I guess because you're discussing individuals. You could choose to go into Executive session. That's, that would... there's only a few reasons you can go into Executive Session. That could be one of them. If you feel if you feel you want to have a real candid discussion, and you know, you could do that. And then you can decide who can stay in on that discussion at this point, I would probably have to say, because I'm the host, and you could decide if the reporter, if you're going to executive session, I would assume you may have concerns about the reporter or the legislator here. But that's up to you to decide who else can stay.

Sarah DeStefano

I guess I'm hoping to get my fellow Commissioners thoughts on this, because on one hand, the only purpose of our meeting this week is to pick individuals. But on the other hand, to in order, I would think to have a candid conversation about these applicants, you know, we are going to get into their personal information quite a bit. And I'm not sure to what extent they submitted this information thinking that, you know, no offense to the Daily Freeman that it might be open to something being posted in the news the next day. So I guess I'd like to hear your thoughts on on on that.

Travis Rask

I can agree, like you said, we're talking about people individually. Maybe some people know someone else, some inside information or anything like that. Maybe when we get to that point, I think an executive session probably could be the best.

Fawn Tantillo

So, someone would need to make a motion to do that seconded, and then you'd vote on it.

Scott Minkoff

I suppose I would say I support this, I think one way to sort of just ensure disclosure and being public as making sure that the list of people that was the original pool is a is just making sure that the original pool of candidates is publicly available and known so that people know that have a full sense of who we crossed off. When we made our decision. Does that make sense to everybody?

Travis Rask

Yeah. Yeah.

Fawn Tantillo

Just probably keep their contact information confidential.

Scott Minkoff

Absolutely. Yeah. Yeah.

Sarah DeStefano

I mean, ultimately, if we were just sharing our screen with our spreadsheet, it would have all of their contact information. And yeah, even you know, things that are public information, but not super easily accessible, like, I don't know, voter registration and things like that.

Scott Minkoff

Well, it also has their addresses and phone numbers and emails. Yeah.

Fawn Tantillo

I will tell you on the original list, several of the emails were incorrect. That's when I sent you out the other list, I actually still had one more correction in there. And of course, three people at this point have declined. I hope you got my email today. So the list is getting shorter by the moment,

Andy Monk

I had also been primarily focused on the folks that did respond to the questionnaire and didn't really take the time to look at those who didn't choose to respond.

Travis Rask

I was in the same boat. Andy, I did the same as yourself.

Scott Minkoff

Okay, I'll suck it up and do it. I'll make a move for a motion for us to go into Executive Session. I think that's debatable. But I don't have strong sense on who should. I mean, I have a sense that it should just be the four commissioners so far and Fawn.

Travis Rask

I agree. Yeah. I'll second the motion for the four of us and Fawn go into Executive Session.

Fawn Tantillo

And, Sarah, you're going to call for a vote.

Sarah DeStefano

Call for a vote.

Fawn Tantillo

Patricia, I could try to text you if they come out of executive session.

Patricia Doxsey

That would be excellent. And I would just like to point out for purposes of your conversation that the information in terms of the names addresses and the other information that was provided to the to this commission was already provided to me by the executive branch. If you're going into executive session to keep that for the to keep that private, it's already been made available to me. Okay,

Sarah DeStefano

I mean, I think just generally it's weird. We're trying to pick candidates candidly, and I don't know that any of us want to be I personally don't know that I want to be on the record for some of our discussion on I don't know, to what extent we should be personally. Perhaps we should be but

Fawn Tantillo

It's not unusual when the legislature is doing interviews or discussing, you know, people for different appointments that they do it in Executive Session.

Travis Rask

So yeah, I agree.

So, Al, I'm gonna knock you out and then, Patricia, I'm going to knock you out too. So

Patricia Doxsey

Fawn, you'll text me you'll text me when they come back in so that I can rejoin.

Fawn Tantillo

I will.

Patricia Doxsey

I appreciate it. Thank you.

Fawn Tantillo

Give me one moment. I suppose I could put them in the waiting room, but

Andy Monk

It sounds like she can rejoin if we come out of it. And I do agree that it, it will be easier for us to have a real candid conversation off the record about these folks. And I think there's going to be the opportunity for us to potentially give information later to Patricia about, you know, who we chose, and perhaps a little bit about why we chose them.

Travis Rask

Yeah, this will continue to be recorded, even though it's an Executive Session.

Fawn Tantillo

Actually, let me just pause the recording

\*\*\*\*\*Recording Paused\*\*\*\*\*

Fawn Tantillo

Now I am resume recording. There we go. All right. So

Andy Monk

I motion for us to adjourn.

Fawn Tantillo

Okay. And we had a second by Travis.

Travis Rask

Yeah.

Fawn Tantillo

All right. And we came out of executive session a couple minutes ago. So we're all set. We're journeying at 7:56. See everybody tomorrow.

Andy Monk

All right, guys, tomorrow, good night.

Sarah DeStefano  
Take care.