



**King County**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**King County Districting Committee**

**Friday, January 29, 2021**  
**3:00 – 4:00 p.m.**

**Members Present:**

Sophia Danenberg, Paul Graves, Cherryl Jackson-Williams and Rob Saka.

**County Staff:**

Patrick Hamacher, Simon Farretta, Erin Arya, Mike Sinsky, Mari Isaacson and Vazaskia Cockrell.

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Patrick Hamacher at 3:02 p.m.

**2. Discussion/decision on the interview process to select the Chair**

Hamacher recapped the decision points covered at the last meeting in selecting a chair. Some members have since expressed interest in judicial candidates. There was also an inquiry into the prior committee's process. It was just announced that the local data from the Census local data will likely not come earlier than July 31. Additionally, SB 5013 which would move up the deadline for the districting plan by six weeks passed the Senate today. Awareness is building that maybe that needs to be moved.

Hamacher asked for discussion and direction about how to proceed. Committee members discussed their efforts since the last meeting to solicit and bring forward candidates and showed interest in doing additional outreach to gather more names. Committee members directed staff to gather a list of retired Superior and District Court judges, and to reach out to bar associations including minority bar associations for recommendations.

Member Saka asked how the delay in receiving data will impact the process of the committee and deadlines. Hamacher shared the committee will need to decide but offered potential options for how the committee might want to organize their process to mitigate impacts to their final product.

**3. Discussion of nominees for the Chair position**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

**4. Future topics and next meeting**

Hamacher reviewed possible future topics for the committee including an overview of the operational legal structure of the committee's work; King County's equity focus; creating and adopting bylaws/rules; review of current districts with the county demographer and related discussions; and outreach plans.

Member Saka inquired about staffing and other resources available to support the work of the committee with the uncertainty surrounding the timing of the Census data. Hamacher shared about the scope of the Districting Master and availability of council and other King County staff to support this work.

King County Council Equity and Social Justice Director Vazaskia Cockrell provided a brief introduction of her role at the council and offered her expertise in equity analysis and community engagement to the committee.

Hamacher noted that Farretta would work with members to schedule the next meetings which members agreed would be held 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Member Saka suggested members consider holding a virtual retreat after the fifth member is chosen.

## **5. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.