

**RULES, ENACTMENTS & INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE
HELD IN ROOM #318
PUTNAM COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
CARMEL, NEW YORK 10512**

Members: Chairwoman Addonizio and Legislators Nacerino & Sayegh

**Wednesday 6:30pm September 21, 2022
(Protective Meeting to immediately follow)**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by Chairwoman Addonizio who requested Legislator Nacerino lead in the Pledge of Allegiance. Upon roll call Legislators Nacerino and Sayegh and Chairwoman Addonizio were present.

Item #3 – Approval of Minutes – August 17, 2022

The minutes were approved as submitted.

Item #4 – Approval/ Appointment to the Reapportionment Commission/ Ditlow

Chairwoman Addonizio recognized Gary Ditlow, who was in attendance, and requested that he speak to his request to be on the Reapportionment Commission.

Mr. Ditlow stated he has been a resident of Garrison since 1985. He stated beginning in 2016 he has analyzed election data. He stated at that time he prepared a report for United States Congressman Sean Patrick Maloney and his staff. He stated as a result of that he took a deeper dive into election data including voter registration data, election results, and redistricting and what the constraints are when districts are gerrymandered. He stated he also has a background in data science.

Chairwoman Addonizio thanked Mr. Ditlow for volunteering to serve as a member on the Reapportionment Commission.

Legislator Nacerino thanked Mr. Ditlow and for volunteering his time and expertise to this Commission.

Legislator Sayegh thanked Mr. Ditlow for volunteering and stated his background will be beneficial to the work this Commission is tasked with.

Legislator Albano thanked Mr. Ditlow for joining the Commission to assist with this difficult task.

Legislator Jonke questioned if Mr. Ditlow is a registered Democrat.

Mr. Ditlow stated that is correct.

Legislator Jonke referenced an article written in the Putnam County Courier about the Reapportionment Commission with the headline “Dems Need Not Apply.”

Chairwoman Addonizio stated at the August Rules, Enactments, & Intergovernmental Relations Committee Meeting she actually stated that interested individuals could contact the Legislature, and that there were already enough Republicans on the Commission; the opposite of what that headline suggests.

Legislator Jonke stated that is the point he is trying to make. He stated he would like to keep this Commission as small as possible, while not excluding Democrats or Republicans. He stated it is interesting how it plays out in the local media.

Legislator Montgomery stated the Commission is still unbalanced in terms of Republicans and Democrats. She thanked Mr. Ditlow for his volunteerism, especially with his background since the work done by the Commission should be data driven.

Legislator Jonke thanked Mr. Ditlow for volunteering to be on the Commission.

Legislator Albano stated he does not believe the work done by the Commission would have a different outcome if it were all Republicans or all Democrats; what is really needed are people who are willing to do the work to get the job done.

Legislator Sayegh stated the districts are based on population, not party registration. She stated she believes Mr. Ditlow’s background will lend itself to looking at the numbers of the entire population.

Mr. Ditlow stated he has information on things like gerrymandering and how to layout the maps in a fair way.

Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to pre-file the necessary resolution; Seconded by Legislator Nacerino. All in favor.

Item #5 – FYI/ Litigation Report – Duly Noted

Item #6 – Other Business – None

Item #7 – Adjournment

There being no further business, at 6:38pm Chairwoman Addonizio made a motion to adjourn; Seconded by Legislator Nacerino. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted by Administrative Assistant, Beth Robinson.