

DELAWARE POPULATION CONSORTIUM



MINUTES Delaware Population Consortium Haslet Armory, Dover, Delaware February 20, 2020

The Meeting of the Delaware Population Consortium was held on Thursday, February 20, 2020 in the Room 219 of the Haslet Armory, 122 William Penn St., Dover, DE.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Samantha Bulkilvish at 10:00 a.m.

The following Consortium members were present:

Officers:

Samantha Bulkilvish, Chair, City of Dover
Matthew Rogers, Secretary, New Castle County
Jamie Fenske, Secretary, Kent County

Members:

Mary Ellen Gray, City of Newark
Matthew Harris, City of Wilmington
Kristen Krenzer, Town of Middletown
William West, Sussex County Association of Towns
Eric Thompson, DLLG
Terry Pepper, Department of Safety and Homeland Security
Jonathan Taswell, Delaware State Housing Authority
Maridelle Dixon, Dept. of Health and Social Services
Marc Cote, DelDot
Chuck Longfellow, Department of Education
James Galvin, Dover/Kent MPO
Dan Blevins, WILMAPCO
Jamie Whitehouse, Sussex County
Jamie Fenske, Kent County
Matthew Rogers, New Castle County
Miriam Pomilio, Office of State Planning

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes for October 31, 2019 were approved on a motion by Matthew Rogers, seconded by Mary Ellen Gray.

BUSINESS -

1. Quick intro to Senate Bill 7

- Population Consortium has been in existence since 1975 and was made an official body by Governor Carney in May of 2019 by signing Senate Bill 7.
- Purpose of the Consortium is to produce one source of population numbers and projections for the use by all state and local government agencies in any reporting, plans or policies.

2. Review of Bylaws

- Bylaws are located on the DPC website which can be found through the demographics link on the Office of State Planning Coordination.
- Duties of the Officers were read aloud.

3. Election of Secretary

- Without a nomination this item agenda was moved to the end.
- Jamie Fenske was nominated by Mayor Robin Christensen and seconded by Matthew Rogers and unanimously voted as the new Secretary.

4. Other Business

- The Census is approaching, and municipalities are working on ways to get the word out including adding fliers into utility bills and meeting with grass roots organizations to boost efforts to connect with undercounted populations. The Office of State Planning also has resources on their website.
- Ed Ratledge gave several updates including:
 - i. Unit counts are being finalized
 - ii. March 31st is the release date for the correctional results of the ACS data
 - iii. The methodology on how the projections are calculated and what specific things are looked at (births/deaths, migration, seasonal population, etc.)
- Discussion was had on the importance of the group and how to portray that importance to other groups throughout the State. One idea was to have a short presentation at each meeting to show a tangible example of how the population projections have been used to make decisions, create policies or inform planning.
- Can new data sources be used and how can the municipalities help to collect that data?
 - i. When new data sources are passed on to Ed he needs to know three things.

1. Where did it come from?
 2. How was it collected?
 3. Where will it fit in to the methodology?
- ii. A data weakness is household growth and housing – this is an area municipalities may be able to help.

5. Future meeting dates

- Meeting will be scheduled monthly starting in June for the fourth Thursday of every month with possibly two meetings in the month of November.
- Discussion was had on the possibility of having alternate locations for members of the consortium and the public to take part in the meetings. These alternate locations would have to be posted in advance at the same time the agenda was posted, would have to be open to the public and have video conferencing capabilities. If this is a desired option and there is a place available please notify Samantha Bulkilvish (sbulkilvish@dover.de.us) prior to the June meeting date of June 25, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

The Consortium voted to adjourn the meeting at 11:21 a.m.

ATTEST: Samantha Bulkilvish
Chair
Delaware Population Consortium