

# Minutes of the REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Wednesday, October 6, 2021

## Committee Members Present:

Atlas-Ingebretson, Barber, Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Fredson, Gonzalez, Johnson, Lee, Lilligren, Lindstrom, Muse, Sterner, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Zelle

## Committee Members Absent:

Barber, Fredson, Lilligren, Muse, Sterner

## CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, Chair Zelle called the regular meeting of the Council's Committee of the Whole to order at 4:02 p.m. on Wednesday, October 6, 2021 on the following roll call vote:

Aye: 10 Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Gonzalez, Lee, Lindstrom, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Zelle  
Nay: 0  
Absent: 5 Barber, Fredson, Lilligren, Muse, Sterner  
No response: 2 Atlas-Ingebretson, Johnson

## APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Council Members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Wulff, seconded by Lindstrom to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2021 regular meeting of the Committee of the Whole. **Motion carried** on the following roll call:

Aye: 10 Chamblis, Cummings, Ferguson, Gonzalez, Lee, Lindstrom, Vento, Wulff, Zeran, Zelle  
Nay: 0  
Absent: 5 Barber, Fredson, Lilligren, Muse, Sterner  
No response: 2 Atlas-Ingebretson, Johnson

## INFORMATION

1. Growth and Change in the Region's Communities: Lessons from the 2020 Census

Todd Graham, Principal Researcher, Community Development, and Matt Schroeder, Principal Researcher, Community Development, shared an overview of and lessons from the 2020 census. They began with a review of the Census, an official cataloguing of the population that occurs once every ten years. Individuals had the option of completing the census either via mail or online. Census-takers then enumerate and follow-up with non-respondents. The Council supports the census by encouraging participation in the Local Update of Census Addresses, validating address counts, reviewing and updating Census Tract geographies to align with

user data needs, and co-convening outreach and coordination meetings with local government partners and Census Bureau staff. The ultimate address list was high quality and resulted in outstanding self-response in Minnesota and metro counties. Minnesota's population of greater than 5.7 million was more than expected and Minnesota was awarded the nation's 435<sup>th</sup> Congressional District with 713,312 residents per Congressional District. The Census showed that the Twin Cities region is home to the majority of Minnesotans, with 3.163 million residents. It also showed that most net growth is from BIPOC groups, diversity is increasing, diversity will increase further, and diversity is nuanced. Most communities saw an increase in diversity during 2010-2020 but many areas remain mostly white. The percentage of BIPOC population is also decreasing in some areas. Graham and Schroeder shared that the Census data is not perfect and can contain inaccuracies and errors. The six leading causes of inaccuracies and errors are: boundary errors, geolocation errors, coverage, Census' process of secondary sources, data-mining and imputation for addresses not participating, respondents' errors, and "Disclosure Avoidance System," which are distortions introduced to summary tables in order to distort personally identifiable information. The final phase of the 2020 Census is trouble shooting, as only three error types can be appealed to the Census Bureau: boundaries, geolocation, and coverage. If state, local, and tribal governments can identify and substantiate errors, the Census can consider review through the Count Question Resolution (CQR) process during 2022-2023. The Council is offering training, technical assistance, and data resources for CQR.

Council Members had questions and comments about the enumeration process, the count process for areas with higher education institutions, as well as the if the drought or other climate issues in coastal areas may have an impact on local population growth. Council Member Cummings shared that she and her husband have been enumerators in the past and shared her experiences. Council Members also asked for information about demographics regarding age, demographics of school-age children, changes in national trends and forecasts based on census data, as well as merging Census data with updated American Community Survey data.

Chair Zelle acknowledged that this meeting will be the last for Council Member Atlas-Ingebretson as she is stepping down from her seat in District 6. Council Member Atlas-Ingebretson shared a thank you message and her final thoughts.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:38 p.m.

Bridget Toskey  
Recording Secretary