Committee members: Ed Bronson, Rick Willson, Dick Harper, Carlie Chilson, Mark Morris

Others present: Leslie Church, Jesse Jayne, Bonnie Percy, Terry Button, Tim Cutler, Doug Paddock, Dan Banach, Pat Killen, Nonie Flynn, Emilee Miller, Rob Schwarting, Bob Brechko,

Ed explained that the purpose of this meeting is to receive input on the Reapportionment/Redistricting of the County.

PUBLIC COMMENT
Jack Clancey stated that he has been a resident of Yates County since 1965. He urges the Legislature to preserve the concept of the last 50 years of one representative, one vote.

Ed asked if there were any questions or comments from the Towns and Villages that the Legislators gathered.

Doug stated that he sent their report, presentation, and supplemental report to Joshua Simon, staff at SUNY New Paltz. Joshua’s findings were that the weighted voting for 14 Members as proposed in the report, is acceptable and would meet court criteria that has been established over the past 30-40 years. Going to 15 Legislators, adding 1 Legislator in District 2, would also require weighted voting to meet court criteria. Joshua also said that if they were to go to one person, one vote it would require 21 Legislators. Doug sent backup information to all the Legislators so they could review it.

Rick reported that both Potter and Torrey voted unanimously to stay with one man, one vote and both are against weighted voting.

Leslie reported that she received a call from the Town of Barrington and they are against weighted voting, but agree with adding a Legislator to District 2 with one person, one vote.

Dick reported that the Town of Benton discussed this and the majority of them decided to go with the weighted voting since it is going to be required by either 14 or 15 Legislators either way and to not add the additional Legislator.

Leslie reported that she received a call from the Town of Starkey Supervisor and they felt like they needed more information to make a decision, but it seemed like they were against weighted voting. Leslie reported that the Town of Milo was split.

Ed reported that he attended the Town of Italy meeting. When he mentioned weighted voting, one person gave him a thumbs up on the Town Board, the other 4 Members of the Board were silent, and 2 Members of the audience said no, don’t do that.

Doug reported that he attended the Town of Jerusalem meeting and they had a resolution unanimously opposing weighted voting and requesting that they move the boundaries of the Districts.

Email received from the Town of Jerusalem below:

From: Sheila McMichael <townclerk@jerusalem-ny.org>
Sent: Thursday, March 17, 2022 11:02 AM
Below is the Resolution adopted by the Jerusalem Town Board at their March 16, 2022 meeting.

RESOLUTION
OPPOSE COUNTY LEGISLATURE WEIGHTED VOTING AND SUPPORT REARRANGING DISTRICT BOUNDARIES
On a motion of Councilor Purdy, seconded by Councilor Jones, the following was ADOPTED Ayes 5 Castner, Jones, Lent, Purdy, Sisson Nays 0

Whereas, the Yates County Legislature’s Ad Hoc Reapportionment/Redistricting Committee has examined changes in the population of Yates County from 2010 to 2020, and

Whereas, this Ad Hoc Committee issued a report in February 2022 recommending that the County Legislature adopt weighted voting in order to address disparities in County legislative representation resulting from the changes within the population of Yates County from 2010 to 2020, and

Whereas, the Jerusalem Town Council discussed the proposal for weighted voting at its February 16, 2022 Town Council meeting, and

Whereas, a majority of the Town Council expressed its opposition to the proposal for weighted voting at this February 16, 2022 meeting; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Jerusalem Town Council hereby confirms its opposition to the proposal of the Ad Hoc Committee for weighted voting, and, be it further

Resolved, that the Jerusalem Town Council supports the alternative of rearranging district boundaries, as mentioned on page 3 of the Ad Hoc Committee’s report, in order to achieve parity in legislative districts, and be it further
Resolved, that, upon adoption, a copy of this resolution be given to each County Legislator.

Tim reported that he attended the Middlesex meeting and they found weighted voting acceptable. They didn’t actually vote, but 5 of the Members thought it was acceptable.

Leslie reported that she did send Scott, the County Attorney, a message asking him what the maximum deviation allowed in a multiple Legislator District would be. If one Legislator is added to District 2 it seems that it would be 7%. She asked if this would be an allowable number without weighted voting. Via email, Scott said there is no definitive deviation threshold defined by law and instances where, as here, where there are multiple member Districts, the standard is substantially equal weight and is determined on a case by case basis. His opinion is that 7% deviation would comply with the standard, but Doug said that it would actually be 11.4% deviation if they add the additional Legislator to District 2.
Doug stated that is essentially what Mr. Simon said. That even adding a person in District 2 still requires weighted voting. It is much closer than with 14 Legislators, but it still requires weighted voting unless you move the boundary lines.

Mark reported that he attended the Penn Yan Village Board meeting to get their input. The Election was going on Tuesday, so they were a bit distracted by that. They would like some more time and some of the members are actually changing. Mark told them that someone would come back and give them a chance to catch up.

Pat stated that they have reviewed the options and reports, but they still have not been able to find a definitive answer on the deviation percentage. The law itself does not appear to give them a clear exacting standard. What they have is rulings or case law. He would like to see more of that to see where they have definitively ruled in a similar case with a multi Legislator District. Pat has spoken to a number of people in the areas he represents and around the Community and several people were strongly opposed to weighted voting and very few people were ok with it. A lot of people still have a lot of questions about all the implication, but he got a very strong opposition to rearranging the Districts.

Ed stated that he called Doug because thinking about the meeting and hearing everyone’s comments last month and a half, he feels frustrated that they need to find some path forward. His proposal to Doug was to add a fourth person to District 2 and then redraw the lines for District 1 and District 3. That would be adding people to the voting for the Town of Potter and perhaps the Town of Torrey or Benton, whatever is deemed necessary. This would maintain one person, one vote, it would take 8 Legislators to be the majority, it would cost the County more money, it would create some confusion with some people, and everyone would not be happy. Doug ran the numbers and came up with that it might affect 480 residents. Ed ran the numbers and came up with a lesser number than that, but close. He thinks they have to decide if it is going to be the ideal or will be something that is going to be workable and meaningful to the people of Yates County. It is a small County and he thinks they look after one another. He hopes that they all have the attitude that if they can help, they can answer a question, or point someone in the right direction they are doing the service for their constituents whether they live in Barrington or Middlesex.

Rick stated that he very much supports Ed’s proposal and this might be a solution. They might also be able to get a payback on the Voting Computers that they have had to spend money on for years and years, because they should be able to generate ballots.

Terry stated that he stepped out to call a Middlesex Town Board Member on how the discussion that Tim was referring to went. He said that Tim said Middlesex was in favor of weighted voting, but there were no comments made at all about it. Tim should not have said that.

Bonnie asked if they would have to move people from Milo into Starkey-Barrington area because they have so few people.

Doug answered that no, they wouldn’t need to, that District would stay the same. Doug stated that Mr. Simon said that the Franklin vs Kramer Court Case established 7.3%, but it’s more than overall population. They also have to look at the Bonsai Index, along with conducting additional calculations. Doug suggested that if they go forward with this, they should get a confirmation from Mr. Simon. He has been willing to help them out to date.
Carlie stated that they heard from Mr. Clancey who was part of the transition from Supervisors over to Legislators. He strongly encouraged preserving the concept of one man, one vote, no matter how that was accomplished. Carlie thanked him for that input and for his service to the Legislature and to their Community. Carlie stated that at the NYSAC Conference they heard from a man named Herman Gist, from Westchester County. He was introduced as the man that turned his County from Supervisors to Legislators and he was honored for that. Carlie asked him what his purpose was in doing that. He said that what he wants to tell everybody, and it will make sense to those that understand, it was 5 votes yes, 5 votes no, and 5 absent. Because of that it was turned form Supervisors to Legislators. Had it been weighted voting, it would not have passed.

Rick stated that he went through the abstracts that Doug sent. When they start out in the first few pages in math and positions, he can see why they would think the numbers are so important. When they read through the whole articles and you get to the back ends of them, the Courts aren’t really talking about numbers. They are talking about fairness to the voters, distribution of power to the Legislators, reasonable expectations of votes coming out, they talk about dummy Legislature Districts. They are getting caught up on the numbers instead of the fairness of one man, one vote. If they get close, he doesn’t know who’s going to sue. They are representing a best fit and he is not worried about the numbers as much as he is about preserving one man, one vote. If they are plus or minus 3%-8%, that is really the nuts and bolts of the thing. It is not a number, it is what the Courts are saying is important and that is where he thinks they need to focus.

Jesse stated that he tried to call the people from SUNY New Paltz, but they were on spring break, so he couldn’t get any answers to his questions. He started studying all this as much as he could. First, he started with the Bonsai Index Equation and it is extreme math. It is not even an equations as much as it is a theory. It runs an algorithm of the fairness of the vote and after the algorithm it becomes over most people’s heads. For a County this size, it is extreme. In the Court Case of Franklin vs. Krause, it was decided that a maximum deviation of 11.9% was legal. Jesse stated that the Court of Appeals has decided that weighted voting is acceptable solely as a temporary expedient. This was decided in Graham vs. Board of Supervisors in Erie County and the Town of Carmel vs. Board of Supervisors in Putnam County. In both cases, there is strong emphasis that weighted voting is solely a temporary interim expedient. Weighted voting is not constitutionally acceptable as a permanent plan for reapportionment. In almost all cases, weighted voting does not do the one thing that everyone assumes it does. It does not allocate voting power equally to the Legislators in proportion to the population that each represents. Jesse agrees with Mr. Bronson, that seems to be the fairest way to go about it.

Doug questioned the years of those cases, because the Franklin case was 1983. If those cases were before the Franklin case, there has been definitive information relative to weighted voting since that time.

Jesse stated that the Franklin vs. Krause case was in 1972 and the Graham & Town of Carmel vs. Board of Supervisors was in the 1970’s.

Doug stated that Mr. Simon indicated that the standard applied now is the Franklin Standard from 1983. Doug stated that if the desire is to have one person, one vote and move the District lines, then he would suggest they be bold and be very disruptive. Have 5 Districts, have 1 that centers on the Village of Penn Yan plus the little bit of area, and then have a Northwest Southwest Northeast District, or maybe only have 5 Members of the Legislature. There is no magic number around 15. When the 13 was originally put together the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors or Chairman of the Legislature did a lot of the administrative tasks. They currently
have a County Administrator who does a lot of that work. If they are going to change the boundaries, change the boundaries and be bold, take a stand and cut the number of Legislators. Doug believes Scott will tell them that will require a vote by the residents of the County because they would be changing the number of Legislators.

Terry stated that one is still one, $1 bill is still $1, one is still one, and he is still one person. Just like every Legislator is one person, when they start trying to change the math, think about as they have been going down the road with their election discussions at the State, Federal, and now County level in this Country, how they want to change everything. Add computers, add this, and add that, one doesn’t count anymore, and one is one. Do they want to go down the road of setting a precedent in their State Elections? It is disgraceful to the people in their County and in their Country that one doesn’t equal one anymore. They can spin it however they want, but one is still one in his book.

Emilee read a Zoom message received from the Town of Middlesex Supervisor: He said he just called two of their Board Members to confirm. They had decided for weighted voting, he only had one other Board Member who didn’t answer his phone. The two he spoke to, had not gotten a call from anyone at the County.

Leslie stated that they also received an email from Jim Multer. He was against weighted voting and moving forward with it.

Email received from Jim Multer below:

3/12/22

TO : The Yates County Legislature

Its now obvious that the redistricting committee of the Yates County wishes to implement weighted voting. As a resident of Barrington I resent the idea of being denied my right to vote for a representative who has full voting power. I will be forced to cast a vote for a representative who will have less voting power than a representative from Jerusalem or Benton. I strongly object to this obvious reduction in the importance of my individual vote and the votes of all of the residents of Barrington and Starkey. The report previously provided by the committee clearly indicated that they worked toward weighted voting while giving little credence or consideration to any other option.

The committee is advocating for a system that was done away with more than 50 years ago. Weighted voting was a problem then and it will be a problem now. The numbers clearly demonstrate that seven legislators can decide any issue. In fact a situation may never arise where a majority would be needed. Seven legislators will have the power to control and seven will not.

No individuals vote should be any more or less important than the vote of any other individual. When we are denied the right to vote for a representative who will have full voting power it reduces the importance of my vote as well as the vote of every resident in the district.

Jim Multer

Ed’s proposal was to add an additional Legislator to District 2 and then redraw the lines, so that it is equal representatives for everybody.

Mark stated that he thinks adding a Legislator is the right solution, but he hasn’t heard enough. He doesn’t know what Jesse is talking about and he doesn’t know if they are getting the best expert advice. Mark would rather take a few weeks and then decide. He feels comfortable
adding another Legislator, but maybe they don’t have to redraw the lines. They could find out if they are close enough.

Ed stated that he believes the people from New Paltz are creditable. He doesn’t have any thought in his mind questioning their credibility.

Rick stated that if they go along the thoughts of Mark, perhaps it is better that they say thank you to the Ad Hoc Committee, dismiss them, and reform a new Committee to take another look at it from a different point of view. The Chairwoman of the Legislature could add a few private citizens who have some experience in Government. That would buy them some time to revisit this with a wider scope.

Ed stated that adding a 15th Legislator does have to have a Public Referendum, the citizens have to vote on that. The timeline for them to get that in place is late May early June. They are under a little bit of a time crunch. He would hate to see them put it off beyond that and have to have a special election for this 1 issue and cost the County $22,000.

Pat stated that the suggestion that Ed made of adding one Legislator and making minor modifications to do the least disruptive seems logical. He is still not certain, after their discussion, that they have a definitive answer as to whether or not after adding one they would still be required. He has heard what Doug has said and he has heard what Jesse has said and he has heard what the County Attorney has said, but he would really like to clarify before they make a final vote on that. Is it necessary to still modify Districts if they add one and he doesn’t think they have an answer to that? The suggestion to go to 5 Legislators is kind of absurd, he’s seen meetings with 3 or 4 people missing. If they had 5 Legislators, it is common to have some people absent and you wouldn’t want 2 people to show up and not have a quorum for a meeting.

Ed asked where Pat would get permission from.

Pat stated that if the Attorney said it was ok, he is confused as to why he would not be aware of the case law that Doug’s referencing. He would like to try and clarify that and if he doesn’t feel he is an expert in that or he has reviewed what Doug has and wants to modify his open that would be pertinent to discussion.

Leslie clarified that she said the deviation was 7% and it sounds as if she was incorrect in that number. Scott said ok to 7%, so if it is 11% then she isn’t sure what his response is to that.

Doug stated that they have the information. These folks put on a seminar at the NYSAC Conference, they have been engaged by Genesee County to do a study there, and they gave the County expert input for free. The expert made it very clear that just adding somebody to District 2 without weighted voting would not pass muster in court. So, therefore, Ed’s proposal to move District boundaries will work. He doesn’t know where else they could go, he believes that Scott has been copied on all of these, but he isn’t sure. These folks do this for a living and Scott does this stuff when requested. Doug stated that he will step down as Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee and as a participant of the Committee.

Rick stated that he has read all the abstracts and stuff and he understands that they put a lot of work into this. He is not saying otherwise, but he does think that there’s a general opinion that they need to go in a different direction and he’s not sure if the current members of that Committee can go that direction.

Bonnie asked what the percentage is if they go and add 1 Legislator and move the lines for them.
Ed replied that it depends where the lines are drawn. You can do it with having to change 400 people or perhaps 300 people, it really depends where the lines are drawn. The ideal would be to get as close to 0 as they can. Ed’s understanding is that they don’t have to be ideal, they have to be within that range that Albany has adopted for them.

Carlie stated that she knows they are on a time crunch, but they could have a Special Meeting and information can be brought to them again between now and whenever. It doesn’t have to wait until next month to come up with this decision or decide the next step. If they need more information gained they could do it in a couple weeks. People need to go home and think about it, this is a huge decision to make. Carlie stated that it is just a recommendation it doesn’t need to be prolonged, month after month.

Terry stated that they are all worried about a timeline. They are going to put it out to the voters and what if the voters decide they do not like this either. They are all worried about the state, the guidelines, and everything, but nobody thinks about the people that they keep talking about, the voter. They are the ones that are going to decide. If the voters don’t like what they have, they are going to start over whether they like it or not.

Ed stated that he has a difference of opinion with Terry, he is concerned about the voters. He doesn’t want the cost of a Special Election if they don’t need it.

Terry stated that he really appreciates that and that is where they are trying to get it right to begin with. Whatever they decide, the people are going to decide, maybe the money that they are worried about doesn’t matter, and they are not buyable. They can’t buy them off of what their true feelings are trying to get it right for them.

Bonnie stated that she thinks that Ed’s idea is more practical than some of the things that they came up with. Adding another Legislator and moving people in those 3 towns is much more palatable than taking half of Milo and putting them in Starkey, Barrington, or some of the other issues they had at the Torrey-Benton line. Bonnie thinks that this is a very good idea.

Dan stated that he thinks they are getting a lot of confusion on this in regards to a referendum. If they add a Legislator then yes, they would have to have a referendum, but if they just change the lines they change the lines. They are the representatives of the people and that puts trust into them as to which way they are going to go. Dan stated that as he said in the very beginning, he was the only one on the Committee who voted no in regards to weighted voting. If they change lines, he would still like to see the Village of Penn Yan, all in 1 District. As far as confusion for the people, they would still vote in the same areas that they have been voting. The only thing that would be different would be the ballot and maybe a name change on the ballot. Dan thinks that they are underestimating the ability of their constituents, he thinks that they could figure it out.

Ed stated that it would only be every 4 years when the Legislators are up for re-election that the ballot would be different for them.

Doug stated that he thinks that Scott would tell them, based on some of his emails, that if they are adding a Legislator it makes it a mandatory referendum. Therefore, they’ve got a little more time in that the proposition for the ballot has to be established around August 8-11. The June timeframe was for if it was a permissive referendum and they had to allow 45 days for a petition to be presented. If it is a mandatory referendum then they have a little more time before the proposition has to be worded.
Tim clarified that the Ad Hoc Committee did look at several different scenarios before they even considered weighted voting. In those scenarios, there were different lines being drawn. They all should have received copies of that. The weighted voting was an expedient, because it simplified what they needed to do through the Board of Elections, it simplified ballots, things like that, but it really comes back to the Legislature to make a decision right and as a group they have to decide. Yes, they can move the lines and as Jesse pointed out, weighted voting is not a forever thing. They can do what they think they need to do among these different options. The Committee didn’t have a lock on what the right answer was for sure.

Pat clarified that with adding 1 Legislator and then trying to get at the targeted numbers, you would need to move 300. The least number of people disrupted or impacted as far as their voting seems to be the best solution, whether it is 80 or 300.

Bonnie asked if it was Torrey, Benton, and Potter, if they took from all 3 of them, would those people be satisfied by what they did or would they prefer it came from one Town?

Ed replied that with a 15th Legislator, you would have to add votes to their District.

Rob stated that if the Legislature is considering adding 1 then they will need to go to a mandatory referendum. He asked if there was any stomach in the Legislature for reducing the number of Legislators to 11, 9, or 10. If they are going to have to go to a mandatory, then the Committee can look at some other changes. There was a great deal of comfort when they moved the entire poll site in District 4 and had it moved to the Legislative District. Where they are headed is opening the door for some other economies now. Rob has pointed out in the past that it will cost them more for elections. Bob and Rob consulted and the cost for an additional Legislator has the potential to be higher than leaving 14 Legislators and bearing the higher election costs. They think that they can present to the state to get the costs down.

Bob stated that if they are going to change district lines they should forget adding another Legislator. They can give voters a chance to do that, if they decide, no, then they have to be ready to go with just changing more district lines. That is where their costs come from, changing district lines. They can do whatever the Legislature wants them to do, but if they are going to add another Legislator, then they need to be prepared for the voters to say no, that 14 Legislators is enough. Then they will have to look at changing all the lines. They have time to do that, after the election, they would have to be ready, because their deadline is February 15th to change the Legislative Districts for next year. They do have a little bit of time, but they need to be prepared to change more than just the two Legislators they are talking about if the voters say no to the additional Legislator.

Carlie stated that there is a lot of confusion and a lot of ideas, a lot of thoughts. Carlie asked if there is any way that they can bring the thoughts together, organize them, and then they be brought before them again. There is so much out there and it seems like they are down to 2 thoughts. The adding or subtracting of Legislators and redistricting some lines or doing the hard thing, doing redistricting, but Carlie thinks they need organized information.

Leslie stated that she sees it as two different options and that’s the one that they presented, which they have all discussed at length. Adding a Legislator and tweaking the borders or changing the borders. She does not think that there seems to be any stomach for weighted voting at all; as it has been presented. The Ad Hoc Committee has done a lot of work on this and they have collected all this data, they did a good job. Those seem to be the 2 options, either change the
borders or add a Legislator, but they need to be prepared. If the voters turn down the proposal of adding a legislator and doing minimal changes to the lines or doing larger changes.

Ed stated that it makes him wonder if the voters turn it down and they put something else up and they turn that down, March 15th comes and goes, then what happens.

Pat questioned what the state is going to do as long as they are continuing to try and work the process.

Rob stated that at some point the court gets involved.

Bonnie stated that while she was on the Committee they looked at three different options to move boundaries. She doesn’t know how many people they are changing. Adding a Legislator and putting more people in that District seems the logical thing to do.

Rick questioned the last time Himrod was brought back into District 3, how many years went from the Census to when that actually occurred?

Doug replied that the plan was put together in 2012 that it took effect in 2013 after the election.

Rick stated that this is not something that has to happen right now.

Doug stated that they need to know what the District is by February 15th. Unless they want to run a special election, if not then it behooves them to get that done before.

Rick stated that he thinks Ed’s solution is a good solution.

Doug stated that if they are going to move boundaries then be bold about it, maybe it’s not 5 Members, maybe it’s 10 Members, but 5 Districts, 1 that satisfies Dan with the Village of Penn Yan being 1 in and of itself, the others spread out. There is nothing magical about 14, there is nothing magical about 15, and there is nothing that says that it couldn’t be done with 10.

Dan stated that going back to 2012, when they moved Milo, he doesn’t remember any confusion, he doesn’t remember anyone rioting, and he doesn’t remember anyone going insane because they changed the lines. Dan asked Bob if he remembered anything going on like that at the time.

Bob stated no, that it was just a matter of they were still in the Town of Milo, but they were in different Legislative Districts.

Dan stated that he thinks the simplest way to do it is to just change the lines. Get it over and done with and move on.

Mark stated that he was on that previous Committee with Dan. It was a no brainer because they were basically taking one part of Milo and moving it, which is Himrod, and moving it back to Milo. What they are talking about now is going to be more complex and they should think harder before they do it. After they do it, what then, if they have a bunch of unintended consequences. It would be nice to know what the consequences are going to be before they do it.

Pat asked if he could make a motion that they vote on Ed’s plan as presented of adding 1 Legislator and making minor adjustments.
Leslie clarified that adding 1 Legislator is what brings it to the people to be voted on, mandatory referendum. Just changing the borders it does not have to go to a mandatory referendum.

Carlie asked if they were going to give the people present an opportunity to express their opinion on this, to express their concerns.

Terry asked if they decide to go to changing the district lines, would they refer to the Committee’s 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 choices. One of these 5 options solve the problem, correct?

Tim stated that they were all intended to create parity, which is what they are shooting for.

Terry stated that they don’t have to be perfect, they can get it closer, though, by using 1 of these 5 scenarios.

Tim stated that they are not limited to those 5 options. They have some GIS people that can create other options.

PUBLIC COMMENT
Joy Shank stated that she believes one man, one vote and maybe Scott might be the answer to this. The 7% to 11% might be the same answer, that it wouldn’t be that big of a deal to change lines.

Sarah Purdy stated that she thinks they all received the resolution that the Town Council of Jerusalem adopted last night. The reason that they worded it the way they did is because they didn’t want to draw any assumptions about what rearranging or redrawing the district lines would lead to. They were aware that there was discussion of a 15th Legislator, but they didn’t want to presume to include anything other than the recommendation suggestion to redraw the lines. They are aware of what the implications may be to a section of their Town.

Jim Smith thanked all the Legislators for the deliberation and the discussion. He thinks it is an important topic. His recommendation is strongly for one person, one vote. He attended the Town of Torrey board meeting and was witness to their resolution to support one person, one vote. Jim suggests that the Committee make a resolution as Chairman Bronson has proposed to vote on that and decide whether that would get forwarded todays Legislative Meeting.

Ed stated that it would not be on today’s agenda. He asked the Committee to take another look, and he will join the Committee to help look with fresh eyes and he will report back at the Government Ops. Meeting in April.

The Government Ops. Committee members did not oppose Ed’s suggestion.

Carlie stated that maybe some people from their boards should join that Committee for their input.

Ed stated that people can talk to any one of them. They are their representatives, they give them time, but he also stated that the folks there should put their thinking caps on and come back with an idea that may be different and may work better or easier. They can’t just say no, they have to come with ideas to work towards a solution.

Meeting adjourned at 12:56 p.m.