

**PROPOSED MINUTES FROM  
COMPLETE COUNT COMMISSION MEETING  
March 27, 2018**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Chairperson Stroger. Secretary White was introduced and made brief comments about the important role the Commission has in the upcoming census, particularly as it relates to those populations which are historically underreported. After his comments, Secretary White turned the meeting back over to Chairperson Stroger.

Chairperson Stroger asked for a roll call for attendance. Those members present in person were Emily Burke, Miguel del Valle, Alex Esparza, Scott Gryder, Michael Inman, Leon Rockingham, Evelyn Rodriguez, Griselda Vega Samuel and Chairperson Stroger. Those members present on the phone were Rose Joshua, Stephanie Schmitz Bechetler for Kathie Kane-Willis, Jackie Petty, State Representative Ryan Spain and Kristy Stephenson.

Chairperson Stroger made opening remarks informing the members of her background and asked the members to introduce themselves. She discussed the two statutory timelines for reports to the Illinois General Assembly, the first being November 30, 2018 and the final report being due June 30, 2019. In addition, Chairperson Stroger inquired whether anyone from the group would be willing to serve as a Vice Chair of the Commission. She asked if any members were interested to please contact her after the meeting. She further indicated if more than one person was interested in serving as Vice Chair, Secretary White would be presented with the names and make the final decision. The announcement of the Vice Chair shall occur at the next meeting.

Chairperson Stroger announced to the Commission that there was no appropriation by the General Assembly for the Commission; therefore, there could be no Director or Assistant Director hired at this time as part of the Commission's efforts. She indicated that an appropriation may need to be a part of the report to the General Assembly in the first report due in November. She further indicated that while there was no appropriation provided, the members could seek reimbursement for travel expenses to Commission meetings and that the Secretary of State's Office would make arrangements through their operational budget allocation to get members reimbursed. She told members that the state reimbursement process may take 6 months or more and if they had the ability to seek reimbursement through their current employers, members may want to consider utilize that process.

Chairperson Stroger introduced the scheduled speakers from the U.S. Census Bureau's Regional Office in Chicago. Ms. Gail Krmenek, Assistant Regional Census Manager, and Ms. Elissa Johnson, Partnership Coordinator for the Census Bureau, presented a power point presentation to the group outlining the census process, the schedule and process for obtaining individual information from Illinois' population, and the importance of outreach and education to the communities. They commended Illinois for

their early efforts and discussed the success they have had in California (with a \$2M budget), Indiana and Minnesota.

Chairperson Stroger indicated that she had received reports from the Census Bureau on Indiana, Minnesota and other states from the 2010 census and she would share those reports with the members of the Commission as soon as possible.

There was a brief discussion about the lack of information or documentation from Illinois' 2010 census outreach efforts. The Census Bureau indicated they had shared some information with Chairperson Stroger on what they were able to find in their records. Chairperson Stroger indicated that information would be shared with the Commission members as soon as possible.

Ms. Krmeneč and Ms. Johnson also informed the Commission of their need to hire many new employees to help in the census process. They requested that Commission members let them know when they identified persons for consideration for these positions and provide their information to them.

There were questions from the Commission members to the Census Bureau following their presentation, particularly with regard to outside corporate funding to help with outreach efforts and ensuring Illinois population under age 5 was accurately counted. Ms. Krmeneč and Ms. Johnson indicated they had worked with groups such as the Joyce Foundation and Forefront in the past and they were currently working on some corporate sponsorship from companies such as Walgreens.

Ms. Krmeneč and Ms. Johnson indicated that the 2010 infrastructure of the Complete Count Commission had many local government components and many of those local groups had to rely on internal money to support their efforts. They further indicated that the mayors' association and other groups were excellent outlets for recruitment of associations and organizations to help with outreach. They mentioned the State of Michigan having a non-profit association assisting their efforts.

The Census Bureau also indicated they had been in contact with Governor Rauner's Office to establish a government liaison to work with. Chairperson Stroger asked for the name of the individual so the Commission could get in contact with him/her to coordinate efforts. The Census Bureau did not have the name but indicated they would provide it to the Commission.

Commission members also questioned how the Census Bureau counts particular groups of residents that are in group settings and not in their permanent residence. These groups include students attending college, individuals incarcerated in prisons and mental institutions and persons assigned to one of Illinois' military bases. Representative Spain asked how the Census Bureau determined what area is listed for them on the census. Ms. Krmeneč and Ms. Johnson indicated it was determined by law that the individual is counted at the location he/she is residing on April 1 of the census year. Representative Spain asked for a copy of the statute and Chairperson Stroger indicated it would be

provided to him. Commission member Burke remarked that the 2010 census failed to identify and count an entire dormitory of students at SIU Carbondale.

Commission Member del Valle asked the Census Bureau about the citizenship question that was to appear on the census form and how they planned to address it. Ms. Krmeneč and Ms. Johnson indicated they had just been made aware of the final decision to include the question prior to coming to the Commission meeting so they were not able to answer the question at that time but hoped the Commission would be able to help in outreach to reassure the public on that issue.

Following the Census Bureau's presentation and the question and answer period that followed, Chairperson Stroger announced that the Commission would like to form subcommittees to help the Commission in their goals. She indicated that the Chairs of the subcommittees could work within their own communities or areas of expertise and bring people in to work on them. While those members would not be a member of the Commission, they would be important to the Commission's work and the Chair of the subcommittees would report back to the Commission on progress being made or where assistance was needed. The subcommittees announced include but were not limited to education, social services/community based organizations, media/social media coordinator, faith based organizations, the LGBTQIA community, immigrant community, veterans, persons with disabilities, homeless, seniors, government outreach, the business community and recruitment of volunteers and employees. After a few questions from Commission members about the subcommittees, Chairperson Stroger asked for anyone interested in Chairing a particular subcommittee to talk to her after the meeting.

Chairperson Stroger asked the membership about the frequency of meetings and meeting locations. It was established that the webinar format used for the meeting seemed to work for the membership but video conferencing could also be an option for the Commission. Video conferencing would require membership to travel to one of two places, one in the Chicago metro area and one in the downstate region, perhaps Springfield. Video conferencing would require members to have to travel, unlike this meeting where membership could log on to their home or work computers and not have to do any travel.

It was decided that the meetings should occur no less than every six weeks. The next meeting was set for Tuesday, May 1, 2018 and would probably continue in the webinar format. Chairperson Stroger indicated a meeting notice would be sent out as soon as a location and format were secured.

On a motion from Member Gryder and a second by Member Rockingham, the meeting was adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

Adopted by the Commission on July 25, 2018