

DRAFT
Meeting Minutes
Delaware Population Consortium
October 28, 2010
Room 219, Haslet Armory
Dover

Attendance:

Jim Galvin, Dover/Kent MPO
Ed Ratledge, UD CADSR
Janelle Cornwell, Dover
Marlena Gibson, DSHA
Barbara Gladders, Public Health
Megan Nehrbas, Sussex Co.
Kelly Crumpley, Kent Co.

Don Berry, DOE
Dan Blevins, WILMAPCO
Mike Duross, DelDOT
Derrick Lightfoot, Wilmington
Laura Simmons, OSPC
Mike Mahaffie, OSPC

The annual meeting of the Delaware Population Consortium (DPC) was called to order by Chair Jim Galvin at approximately 10:12 a.m.

Barbara Gladders made a motion to approve the minutes for the September 29, 2010 workshop. Janelle Cornwell seconded the motion and it passed, unanimously.

Jim Galvin opened the floor to nominations for Delaware Population Consortium officers.

Kelly Crumpley nominated Mike Mahaffie to continue as DPC Secretary. Ed Ratledge seconded the nomination. There being no further nominations, Jim Galvin called for a vote and the membership approved the nomination, unanimously.

Kelly Crumpley nominated Marlena Gibson to serve as Vice Chair. Mike Mahaffie seconded the nomination. There being no further nominations, Jim Galvin called for a vote and the membership approved the nomination, unanimously.

Jim Galvin noted that at the conclusion of the meeting, current Vice Chair Barbara Gladders would become Chair and he would become Immediate Past Chair.

Ed Ratledge presented the final draft of the 2010 Population Projections Series and led a brief discussion of the projections.

Ed said that there is still some growth in households in Delaware, though it is slower. He noted that there will be a demographic shift in the state as the aging of the population becomes more apparent. He said he expects to eventually see household size start to go back up, slightly. He added that the labor force will shrink somewhat as the population ages.

Ed explained that the biggest challenge with the 2010 projections has been to project employment in a very dynamic period. He noted steep job losses, particularly in New Castle County, between 2005 and

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2010. He added that the recent sharp drop in net in-commuting is likely to stabilize. He expects to revisit the employment projections when more data become available later in 2011.

Kent County saw a more extreme version of the housing boom, Ed explained. He pointed out that in-migration and household creation have dropped back to their traditional, pre-boom levels in Kent County. He added that net migration is always a large part of any growth in Kent County. He said that Kent County employment has held mostly steady.

Sussex County, he said, remains much as it always does, with immigration, especially of retiring seniors, keeping growth steady, if less steep than in years past. The surprise in Sussex, he said, is that births, and therefore "natural increase" were stronger than had been expected. He added that the number of births among the Hispanic population has leveled off.

The 2010 Population Projection Series includes new data tables showing Hispanic population by sex and age for the state and the three counties. This is a new set of data tables and is based on an allocation of population based on the past demographic structure of the population (found via the ACS and other data sources). This data represents a starting point and the methodology, he added, will be enhanced and improved going forward.

For the projections of the three largest cities, the data have been adjusted to reflect the most recently available Census estimates of population by places. Otherwise, Ed reported, there was not much change in the long term outlook for Wilmington, Newark and Dover.

Mike Mahaffie made a motion to accept the draft 2010 Delaware Population Projections for publication. Don Berry seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Kelly Crumpley made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by mike Mahaffie and passed unanimously.