

# DELAWARE POPULATION CONSORTIUM



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## **MINUTES** **Delaware Population Consortium** **Virtual Meeting** **December 17, 2020**

The Meeting of the Delaware Population Consortium was held on Thursday, December 17, 2020 virtually using Zoom.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Matthew Rogers at 10:00 a.m.

The following Consortium members were present:

### **Officers:**

Matthew Rogers, Chair, New Castle County  
Dan Blevins, Vice-Chair, WILMAPCO  
Samantha Bulkilvish, Secretary, City of Dover

### **Voting Members:**

Mary Ellen Gray, City of Newark  
Marc Cote, DelDot  
James Galvin, Dover/Kent MPO  
Dan Blevins, WILMAPCO  
Miriam Pomilio, Office of State Planning  
Kristen Krenzer, Town of Middletown  
Eric Thompson, Delaware League of Local Governments  
Dr. Susan Bunting, Delaware Department of Education  
Jamie Fenske, Kent County  
Matthew Harris, City of Wilmington

**Other Members:** Ed Ratledge, Marilyn Smith, Anson Gock, Owen Robatino, Nick Torrance, Jennifer Norwood, Kim Klein, Jennifer Miles

## **MINUTES**

The minutes for October 22, 2020 were approved on a motion by James Galvin, seconded by Eric Thompson.

## **BUSINESS -**

1. Review of Draft Projections
  - Ed started by saying that he only received one call regarding the Draft projections from Matt Rogers.

- The projections show a net migration to New Castle County most likely attributed to job availability.
  - The 2020 Census has finalized counting.
  - Key issues pulled from the projections:
    - i. Age structure – millennials are not reproducing at a significant enough rate to maintain the population
    - ii. People are moving out of multi-family dwellings into single-family homes in the suburbs. This could be troubling for the construction industry as they work to keep up with demand.
  - Delaware is to hit one million people by 2025
  - Re-districting of representative districts to continue as scheduled.
  - When asked about Delaware's population growth in terms of the Country as a whole Ed responded that population growth is down in the Northeast overall and is booming in Texas.
2. Voting on 2020 Projections
- A motion was made to approve the projections by Dan Blevins and Seconded by James Galvin.
  - A roll call vote was taken by Matthew Rogers which revealed a vote of 11 yes votes and 1 abstention.
3. Future meeting dates
- Next meeting is scheduled for March 25, 2021 at 10am.
  - It was discussed that it would be beneficial to get a run down on how the 2020 Census went.
  - A meeting will be scheduled for every fourth Thursday of the month after March through December of next year.
  - If and when things return to normal it is the Population Consortiums intention to hold hybrid meetings so participation can continue virtually for those who are unable to travel to Dover for in person meetings.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The Consortium voted to adjourn the meeting.

## **ATTEST:**

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Matthew Rogers  
Chair  
Delaware Population Consortium