

COUNTY OF KENDALL, ILLINOIS
Kendall County Complete Count Census Commission
Monday, September 9 at 5pm
Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Robyn Vickers at 5:00pm.

ROLL CALL

Attendee	Status	Arrived	Left Meeting
Robyn Vickers	Here		
Scott Gengler	Here		
Ed Bugg	ABSENT		
Christina Burns	ABSENT		
Rob DeLong	Here		
Becca Garcia	ABSENT		
Katelyn Gregory	Here		
Scott Gryder	ABSENT		
Lynette Heiden		5:07PM	
Bob Jones	ABSENT		
Cathy Kavanaugh	Here		
Brent Lightfoot	Present		
Chris Mehochko	Here		5:43PM

Others Present: Steve Curatti, Kendall County Health, Mera Johnson, Kendall County Administrative Services.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA – Member Gengler made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Member Mehochko. **With seven members present in agreement, the motion carried.**

DETERMINATION OF QUORUM: With seven members present there was a quorum.

INTRODUCTIONS: Each member introduced themselves and stated what organization they are from and their role in the community.

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR: Chair Vickers welcomed everyone to the first meeting and stressed the importance of making sure everyone was counted as there are financial and representation implications for our area.

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVE OF COMMISSION: The Commission is charged with coming up with ideas to reach all residents of Kendall County with the message of how important the Census is and being counted matters.

GRANT EFFORTS: Staff Liaison, Mera Johnson, indicated she applied for a \$50,000 through the Illinois Department of Human Services to do outreach. Most of the grant is to purchase equipment, cell phones and I-Pads for people to respond to the Census. There is also money in there for a bilingual staff person. The memo with a detailed list is attached.

HARD TO COUNT POPULATIONS: Kendall County has 10 census tracts according to the data hard to count populations in those tracts the four hard to count populations minorities, those without a cell phone plan and renters. Because the data is from 10 years ago those without a cell phone plan may have changed drastically as more people have mobile devices. Member Lightfoot indicated that if location of the tracts and hard to count populations and addresses could be cross referenced there could be a more focused targeting.

GROUP DISCUSSION ABOUT OUTREACH EFFORTS: Steve Curatti from the Health Department indicated that the Health Department would be happy to have I Pads and Kiosks in their building. There is a Senior Services Team that could assist with outreach. There is also an inter-agency group that Chad Lockman of the Veteran's Commission Chair's.

Member Gregory indicated that area Hospitals and both Community Colleges would be a good outreach outlet. Starbucks, other stores. Member Mehochko suggested the Mexican grocery store in Plano, Marketa. Also currency exchanges and perhaps looking at the Juvenile Justice Council assisting with volunteers. Member Mehochko also asked about Hospitals and distributing information when babies are born or when birth certificates are obtained. He also mentioned Kendall Area Transit (KAT) as a way to get good outreach.

Member DeLong said he would be happy to lead the efforts in Boulder Hill with perhaps something at the Oswego Township Office.

Member Kavanaugh indicated that there are many places to interact with the hard to count populations the Food Pantry would be happy to host census staff. Also St Mary's Catholic Church in Plano, Kendall County PADS and the Village Bible Church in Plano which has a large Hispanic church service weekly.

Member Lightfoot stressed the importance of collecting data and focusing efforts based on target data models.

Member Gengler indicated that perhaps focusing on the schools to eventually get to parents. Finally, it was suggested social media but used and prepared ads form the Census Bureau be used to bring attention to the Census.

Member Vickers asked about assisting residents in completing the Census. Ms. Johnson indicated that she believed this was not allowed but would check. Member Vickers also asked about OMA training for members. Ms. Johnson indicated she would also check into the rule regarding that.

NEXT MEETINGS TO BE DETERMINED: Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday December 5, 2019

PUBLIC COMMENT: Willy Cade resident suggested finding a Boy Scout that's doing an Eagle Scout Project. He also suggested prizes or a raffle.

ADJOURNMENT – Member Lightfoot made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Member De Long. **With no objections, the meeting was adjourned at 6:06pm.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Mera Johnson
HR Risk & Compliance Coordinator