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Public Comment
Sullivan County Legislature
Thursday, July 21, 2022, at 11:00 a.m.

Good afternoon.
I am Martha Scoppa from Liberty.

Regarding redistricting of the nine legislative districts, I am concerned about the three map-based proposals from Main Street Communications (Option 1, Option 2, and Option 3) that are available on the Sullivan County website. It is difficult to compare these new maps to the current district map.

It is my understanding that redistricting is necessary in order to give each Legislator's district an approximately equal percentage of the County's overall population, yet none of these maps show population statistics. In order to review and compare the redistricting proposals, it would be helpful if Main Street Communications were to produce maps showing populations statistics. If all three new maps and the current district map had population statistics, that would clarify the intent of redistricting.

The three options show boundaries, but it is difficult to compare them to the current boundaries. It would be helpful if Main Street Communications were to produce overlay maps showing how the three new maps have different boundaries from the current district map. Using Option 1 as an example, it would be good to see the boundaries of this map superimposed over the boundaries in the current district map.

On another topic, I believe that rules for Public Comment were violated this morning at the 9:00 a.m. Executive Committee meeting when Legislator George Conklin invited Mr. Steppich to speak.

There is no Public Comment on the Executive Committee meeting agendas, yet this private citizen was allowed to speak about Governor Hochul's gun legislation.

Those of us who make Public Comment are well aware of the rules including the three-minute limit which is now monitored by this handy-dandy-red-light-green-light timer. I noticed that the timer was not set when Mr. Steppich spoke.

Procedure was not followed. That was unfair.

Thank you.