Resolution to Support Redistricting Reform

WHEREAS, the current redistricting process creates a conflict of interest—as State legislators are effectively choosing their own constituents; and,

WHEREAS, the redistricting process should be conducted in an open manner with real opportunities for public dialogue and feedback, not behind closed doors; and,

WHEREAS, legislative incumbents often draw districts that are not compact and split communities of interest; and,

WHEREAS, important principles such as the protections of the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 and respect for neighborhoods and cities should be clearly listed for a Commission to abide by; and,

WHEREAS, voters are more likely to participate when they feel that their vote will count and that they have a reasonable chance of electing candidates who represent their interests; and,

WHEREAS, elected officials are more responsive to constituents when voters have a choice of candidates, thus increasing accountability and serving the best interests of the voters of North Carolina.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Council of the Town of Boone, North Carolina, urges the State of North Carolina to establish an independent redistricting process that ensures diversity, partisan balance and geography, for all future redistricting.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be sent to State Senator Dan Soucek and State Representative Jonathan Jordan.

Adopted this 20th day of August, 2015.

ATTEST:

Town Clerk Christine Pone

Mayor Pro Tem Rennie Brantz