

NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, January 25, 2018

COMMISSIONERS

(The names of those members present are highlighted.)

Hon. Marc T. Aveni	<i>City of Manassas</i>
Hon. Willie F. Bailey	<i>City of Alexandria</i>
Hon. Sharon Bulova	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Kelly Burk	<i>Town of Leesburg</i>
Hon. Peter Candland	<i>County of Prince William</i>
Hon. John C. Cook, NVRC Treasurer	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Laurie A. Dirocco, NVRC Chairman	<i>Town of Vienna</i>
Hon. Gerald M. Foreman II	<i>Town of Dumfries</i>
Hon. Libby Garvey	<i>County of Arlington</i>
Hon. Penelope A. Gross	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Pat Herrity	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Geary Higgins	<i>County of Loudoun</i>
Hon. Catherine Hudgins	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Jeffrey C. McKay	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. David Meyer	<i>City of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Martin E. Nohe	<i>County of Prince William</i>
Hon. Sheila Olem	<i>Town of Herndon</i>
Hon. Redella S. Pepper	<i>City of Alexandria</i>
Hon. Frank J. Principi	<i>County of Prince William</i>
Hon. Phyllis J. Randall	<i>County of Loudoun</i>
Hon. Jeanette Rishell	<i>City of Manassas Park</i>
Hon. Kathy L. Smith	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. David Tarter, NVRC Vice-Chairman	<i>City of Falls Church</i>
Hon. John Vihstadt	<i>County of Arlington</i>

STAFF PRESENT

Robert Lazaro	<i>Executive Director</i>
Linda M. Tenney	<i>Deputy Director</i>
Gina Kesselmann-Smith	<i>Executive Assistant</i>
Normand Goulet	<i>Director, Environmental Services</i>
Dale Medearis	<i>Senior Environmental Planner</i>
Michelle Simmons	<i>Director, Human Services</i>
Peggy Tadej	<i>Director, Military Partnerships</i>

OTHERS PRESENT

Niels Crone	<i>Customer First Renewables</i>
Kathleen Daley	<i>Sierra Club</i>
Bill Eger	<i>City of Alexandria</i>
Susan Hafeli	<i>Fairfax County Staff</i>
Debra Jacobson	<i>Sierra Club</i>
Wayne Korrer	<i>Fairfax County UDCD/CAP/DPWES</i>
Norbert Pink	<i>Sierra Club/Great Falls Group</i>
John Morrill	<i>Arlington County Staff</i>
Terence de Pentheny O'Kelly	<i>Customer First Renewables</i>
Tim Stevens	<i>Sierra Club</i>

CALL TO ORDER Chairman DiRocco called the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.

ROLL CALL The roll was called and all members present or absent were noted for the record.

DISCUSSION AND PRESENTATIONS

LED Street Light Update

Since the Commission meeting in November senior staff from the various localities have met with Dominion Energy two occasions to discuss LED street light technology, replacement, cost, etc. The last meeting with Dominion Energy was held on January 8. The purpose of this presentation and discussion was to provide information to Commissioners as to the results of the meetings and receive further feedback. Staff from several localities (Fairfax County, Arlington County, City of Alexandria, Town of Leesburg) were present at the meeting to provide their perspective.

Purchase of Bulk Renewable Energy

NVRC and local government staff have met with Customer First Renewables to explore the purchase of bulk renewable energy to help reduce energy operating costs for local governments and other entities. Commissioners received a briefing of the status of this project to date and the opportunities for local governments to move forward with this project. The presenter from Customer First Renewables was Niels Crone and his presentation was emailed to all Commissioners afterwards.

Legislative Matters

Fairfax Board of Supervisors Chairman Sharon Bulova co-chaired Governor Northam's Transition Committee on Local Government. The Committee adopted a report of recommendations. Chairman Bulova provided a briefing on the report. A copy of the report was provided at the meeting.

Commissioner Bulova made a motion to write a letter to the delegation from the Commission's jurisdictions at the General Assembly in support of the items mentioned in the report. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McKay and carried unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P18-19 – Authorizing the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with VML/VACO regarding their VIP investment plan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P18-20 – Authorizing the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with the Maryland Energy Office to participate in an LED Street Light project. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garvey and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P18-21 –

Authorization to enter into an agreement with Coastal Design and Construction, Inc. to complete construction at the Living Shoreline at Leesylvania State Park. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garvey and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P18-22 – Authorization to sign a Memorandum of Agreement with the participants in the Clean Water Partners Program. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bulova and carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
REPORT

Mr. Lazaro presented his report to the Commission, which included the financial report for December 2017 and the following:

- New Website Launched
- Neabsco Boardwalk Groundbreaking
 - NVRC was pleased to participate in the Neabsco boardwalk groundbreaking.
 - NVRC sponsored and oversaw the funding used for the boardwalk design.
 - The boardwalk is an amazing educational and recreational element in completing a connection between Rippon Lodge and Leesylvania State Park.
- 2017 By the Numbers
 - **Solarize NoVA**
 - 196 Total Projects
 - 1,505 kW of new solar
 - \$4,744,856 in contract value
 - 18 Weatherization Projects resulting in 302,011 kWh annual savings or \$33,221.21
 - **Social Media**
 - 141,500 Twitter Impressions
 - 49,416 Facebook Unique Viewers
 - **E-Newsletter Communications**
 - 247 E-Newsletters
 - 8815 opens
 - 3880 unique clicks
 - **Web Site**
 - 22,522 novaregion.org web site visits
 - 104,748 plantnovanatives.org web site visits
 - 15,634 sharevaroads.com web site visits
 - 4,400 novasolarmap.com web site visits
- SolSmart Project
 - Congratulations to our colleagues in Alexandria, Arlington County and Fairfax City in achieving Bronze status.
- A First for Solarize NoVA

- Our first commercial Solarize NoVA installed – 42 kW in Tysons.
- Upcoming Events
 - February 1 – meeting with Katie Cristol, new Chair of Arlington County Board
 - February 5 – Follow up meeting with local governments only re: LED street lights
 - February 6 - Hosting event with Virginia Clean Cities Coalition to showcase Electric Vehicles, talk about EV charging infrastructure and planning for such.
 - September - Hosting a delegation from Stuttgart Region in September. NVRC has had a 19 year relationship with Region Stuttgart.

MINUTES

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Commission meeting minutes of November 30, 2017. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Olem and carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Gross briefed the Commissioners on the recent Community & Military Meeting that took place January 18, 2018 at the NVRC office location at 10 am. She also invited Commissioners to attend the next meeting March 15, 2018 from 10am to Noon at the NVRC office location.

The meeting on January 18 included the following speakers and discussion:

- Dr. Will Rowe presented an update on the Academic Alliance and a discussion proceeded on the next steps to include: Preparing for a conference on Cybersecurity Training and Education Resources for Building Talent in NOVA for both Teachers and Transitioning Veterans.
- Mike Coleman spoke on behalf of the Secretary of Veterans & Defense Affairs on the strides the Commonwealth of Virginia has made to ensure our military remains ready, willing, and able to assist in our Nation's defense. He briefed the group on an update on the "Growing the Military Mission" report that was completed by Matrix.
- John Simmons from the Roosevelt Group provided the annual update from Capitol Hill and the 2018 Priorities.
- Kathleen Ferguson who is a Senior Advisor to The Roosevelt Group gave her impressions of another round of BRAC and the need for an evolution of the Base of the Future.
- **ACTION ITEMS:** A joint invitation is being drafted to send to the School Superintendents and Veteran Organizations for a one-day workshop on June 26th at George Mason University from 9AM to 4 PM that will meet the following objectives:
 - Understand types of jobs needed in the NOVA Region

- Understand training pathways and programs for veterans to get qualified, and high school teachers to get trained
- Solidify information link to cyber jobs and training curriculum
- Develop updated plan for the Alliance from inputs at the conference
- Provide direction to move the Academic Alliance Initiative that includes partnerships with the academic, military, governments, and industry.

Commissioner Garvey brought up the problematic situation with Waze. With highways frequently congested, navigation apps like Waze started telling drivers to cut through residential streets instead and get back on the highway where traffic cleared up a bit. The apps attempt to prevent congestion by distributing traffic on all public streets, even to quiet residential roadways, which is not met with enthusiasm by the affected neighborhoods. After discussing the situation the Commission came to the conclusion to monitor the situation for now, as this issue is complicated on a lot of levels.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman DiRocco adjourned the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.
Executive Director

Approved by:

Laurie A. DiRocco
Chairman