

NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, January 26, 2023

COMMISSIONERS

(The names of those members present are highlighted.)

Hon. Walter L. Alcorn
Hon. Victor S. Angry
Hon. Andrea O. Bailey
Hon. Kenny A. Boddye¹
Hon. Tyrone Brown
Hon. Kelly Burk
Hon. John T. Chapman, NVRC Chairman
Hon. Linda J. Colbert
Hon. Matt de Ferranti
Hon. Libby Garvey
Hon. Alyia Gaskins²
Hon. Sylvia Glass
Hon. Penelope A. Gross
Hon. Pat Herrity
Hon. Rodney L. Lusk
Hon. Sheila A. Olem, NVRC Vice Chairwoman
Hon. Dalia A. Palchik
Hon. Catherine Read
Hon. Jeanette Rishell
Hon. Koran T. Saines
Hon. Kathy L. Smith, NVRC Treasurer
Hon. David Tarter
Hon. James R. Walkinshaw
Hon. Mark Wolfe

County of Fairfax
County of Prince William
County of Prince William
County of Prince William
Town of Dumfries
Town of Leesburg
City of Alexandria
Town of Vienna
County of Arlington
County of Arlington
City of Alexandria
County of Loudoun
County of Fairfax
County of Fairfax
County of Fairfax
Town of Herndon
County of Fairfax
City of Fairfax
City of Manassas Park
County of Loudoun
County of Fairfax
City of Falls Church
County of Fairfax
City of Manassas

STAFF PRESENT

Robert Lazaro
Linda M. Tenney
Gina Kesselmann-Smith³
Normand Goulet
Chris Landgraf
Dale Medearis⁴
Rebecca Murphy
Michelle Simmons⁵

Executive Director
Deputy Director
Management Analyst
Environmental Services Director
Military Installation Resiliency Project Manager
Senior Regional Planner
Resources Program Manager
Human Services Director

OTHERS

Randy Clarke
Greg Potts

WMATA
WMATA

¹ Joined virtually – with Chairman's approval

² Joined virtually – with Chairman's approval

³ Joined virtually

⁴ Joined virtually

⁵ Joined virtually

- CALL TO ORDER** Acting Chairman Chapman called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.
- ROLL CALL** The roll was called, and all members present or absent were noted for the record.
- ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN** Commissioner Gross moved the election of Commissioner Chapman as Chairman of the Commission and Commissioner Olem as Vice Chair of the Commission. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.
- PRESENTATION** **Presentation from Randy Clarke, General Manager and CEO, WMATA**
- Commissioners received a presentation/update from Mr. Randy Clarke, the new General Manager and Chief Executive Officer of the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority. Mr. Clarke was appointed in July 2022 to this position.
- ACTION ITEMS** Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P23-11– Resolution authorizing the submission of a grant for round two of the Military Installation Resilience Review (MIRR) project. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.
- Background:
- NVRC was invited to submit a new grant for round two of the Military Installation Resilience Review (MIRR) project. This funding will complement the funding of the existing MIRR project.
- Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P23-12 – Resolution authorizing issuance of RFP for advertising for the Clean Water Partners Campaign. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.
- Background:
- NVRC coordinates the regional Clean Water Partners campaign. By coordinating regionally this effort assists our localities in meeting the educational requirements of their MS4 permits and allows for a consistent message across the region.
- Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P23-13 – Authorization to submit and accept a grant from the National Park Service Chesapeake Gateway Program for the benefit of the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.
- Background:
- NVRC coordinates regional activities related to the Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail. The resolution authorizes NVRC to submit and accept a grant from the National Park Service Chesapeake Gateway program.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S
REPORT

Mr. Lazaro presented his report to the Commission, which included the financial report for December 2022 and the following:

- Flood Mitigation in the Region
 - NVRC was pleased to receive a \$115,000 Congressionally Directed Spending grant, supported by our Northern Virginia Congressional delegation, to help better prepare the region for flood mitigation.
 - The grant will assist the region in the placement of additional flood gauges to better monitor and respond to flooding events. The grant will be funded through NOAA.
 - Nora Jackson is the NVRC lead on this project.
- Affordable Housing Grant: Alexandria and Loudoun
 - Depending on final unit count, NVRC will deliver more than 10 times the number of units expected as part of this grant.
- Supporting the Future of Workforce – Electric Vehicles/Charging
 - NVRC received a \$15,000 grant from Dominion Energy to take Career Technical Education (CTE) teachers and educators from Arlington County and City of Alexandria schools to study the application of German vocational education lessons in the electric vehicles (EV) and renewable energy infrastructure sectors.
 - The group will travel in the fall of 2023 and meet with counterparts from German schools, unions, businesses and chambers of commerce in the Stuttgart and Hamburg regions. The involvement of educators and students from socio-economically disadvantaged communities is emphasized.
 - This exchange draws from the experiences and internships of students at Arlington and Alexandria Mercedes Benz and VW dealerships.
- Supporting Community Efforts
 - NVRC was pleased to host volunteers from the Plant NoVA Natives effort in our offices.
 - The Plant NoVA Natives campaign started at NVRC via a grant and has since blossomed into a volunteer directed and run program helping to share the environmental benefits of native plants. In addition, the volunteers work with local plant nurseries to help provide local economic benefit to the region.
- Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program

- Customer Appreciation Event hosted by one of NVRC's Ryan White Providers, the VHO Nexus Program.
- Virginia Values Veterans (V3) Certification
 - The Co-Chairs of NVRC's Community, Military and Federal Facilities Partnership, Commissioners Penelope Gross and Victor Angry, proudly display the certificate received by NVRC as a certified Virginia Values Veterans (v3) employer.
- Resiliency in the Region
 - Dr. Dale Medearis took the Environment Team out to several sites in the region that demonstrate resiliency projects being implemented by our partner local governments. Getting out in the field gives our staff the opportunity to see firsthand the good work being done in the region to help better inform their work as we collectively work together.
- NVRC Staff Exchange to Stuttgart Region
 - Allie and Nora of our Environmental and Resiliency Planning Team were interviewed for an article in the Stuttgart Region's magazine about their staff exchange to the Stuttgart Region this past fall. Stuttgart Region is bringing a delegation of 19 to the region this September.
- Sharing Our Data with the Community
 - Jill Kaneff, our Senior Regional Demographer, presented at an Alexandria Citizen's Group on the Regional and City recovery from COVID19.
- Mr. Lazaro also welcomed three new Commissioners – Commissioner Glass, Commissioner Read, and Commissioner Brown.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Chapman had nothing to report.

COMMUNITY & MILITARY PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Gross reported that the January 12 Community and Military Partnership meeting was once again a great success and invited everyone to attend the next Community and Military Partnership meeting on March 16, 2023, 10am-12pm.

Commissioner Gross also provided an update on upcoming action items:

- Invite Congresswoman Kiggans to a future meeting of the community-military partnership
- Include a military health representative at the State level on the DEI Working Group to look at increasing access to mental health care for the military and their families
- Invite Maureen Sintich, DNP, MBA, RN, WHNP-BC, NEA-BC who serves as Inova's Chief Nurse Executive (CNE) and

Executive VP to be a speaker at the March 16th meeting of the community-military partnership to address what Hospitals are doing to recruit veterans for healthcare employment and how to improve access to mental health for the military and their families

- Invite Terri Feely, Inova's Chief People Officer, to the March 16th meeting of the community-military partnership to address what Inova is doing to recruit veterans for healthcare employment
- Include access to broadband as a quality-of-life topic as a future meeting
- For a discussion of affordable housing, invite Clark Mercer, head of WMCOG and Paul DesJardin, Director, Department of Community Planning Services, WMCOG
- Share the Fact Book with Commissioners at the January NVRC Meeting
- Provide and update on the Virginia Assembly bills related to military and veterans at the next meeting
- Follow up with John Simmons on a letter to the First Lady to address Child Care and Workforce issues
- Provide an update on ad-hoc committee efforts to recognize the 75th anniversary of Executive Order 9981

Remaining Schedule for 2023 is as follows:

- 16 March
- 18 May
- 20 July
- 21 September
- 16 November

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Commission meeting minutes of December 15, 2022. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Chapman adjourned the meeting at 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved by:

Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.
Executive Director

John T. Chapman
Chairman