

NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, April 28, 2022

COMMISSIONERS

(The names of those members present are highlighted.)

Hon. Walter L. Alcorn	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Victor S. Angry	<i>County of Prince William</i>
Hon. Andrea O. Bailey	<i>County of Prince William</i>
Hon. Kenny A. Boddye	<i>County of Prince William</i>
Hon. Juli E. Briskman	<i>County of Loudoun</i>
Hon. Kelly Burk	<i>Town of Leesburg</i>
Hon. John T. Chapman	<i>City of Alexandria</i>
Hon. Linda J. Colbert	<i>Town of Vienna</i>
Hon. Matt de Ferranti	<i>County of Arlington</i>
Hon. Libby Garvey¹	<i>County of Arlington</i>
Hon. Alyia Gaskins²	<i>City of Alexandria</i>
Hon. Penelope A. Gross	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Pat Herrity	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Rodney L. Lusk	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. David Meyer, NVRC Vice Chairman	<i>City of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Cydney A. Neville, NVRC Chairwoman	<i>Town of Dumfries</i>
Hon. Sheila A. Olem	<i>Town of Herndon</i>
Hon. Dalia A. Palchik	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Jeanette Rishell	<i>City of Manassas Park</i>
Hon. Koran T. Saines	<i>County of Loudoun</i>
Hon. Kathy L. Smith, NVRC Treasurer	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. David Tarter	<i>City of Falls Church</i>
Hon. James R. Walkinshaw	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Mark Wolfe	<i>City of Manassas</i>

STAFF PRESENT

Robert Lazaro	<i>Executive Director</i>
Linda M. Tenney	<i>Deputy Director</i>
Gina Kesselmann-Smith ³	<i>Management Analyst</i>
Normand Goulet	<i>Environmental Services Director</i>
Christopher Landgraf	<i>Military Installation Resiliency Project Manager</i>
Michelle Simmons ⁴	<i>Human Services Director</i>
Peggy Tadej ⁵	<i>Director of Community and Military Partnerships</i>

OTHERS PRESENT

Sid Banerjee	<i>GoVirginia Northern Virginia Council</i>
Victor Hoskins	<i>Fairfax County Economic Development</i>
Ann Hyslop	<i>SkillSource Group</i>

¹ Joined virtually – with Chairwoman’s permission

² Joined virtually – with Chairwoman’s permission

³ Joined virtually

⁴ Joined virtually

⁵ Joined virtually

CALL TO ORDER	Chairwoman Neville called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m.
ROLL CALL	The roll was called and all members present or absent were noted for the record.
PRESENTATION	<p>Go Virginia – Northern Virginia Council</p> <p>Sid Banerjee, Chairman of the Go Virginia Northern Virginia Council provided an update to the Commission on the activities of the Council around important subject matters as workforce and talent acquisition.</p> <p>Northern Virginia Economic Development Alliance Update</p> <p>Victor Hoskins, President and CEO of Fairfax County Economic Development, is serving this year as the Executive Director of the Northern Virginia Economic Development Alliance. Mr. Hoskins provided an update on the activities of the organization over the past year to increase economic development in the region.</p>
ACTION ITEMS	<p>Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P22-31– Authorization to Sign a Contract with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality to Procure Expert Training Services in the Use of Winter Salt Best Management Practices to Private Sector Winter Operations Staff. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.</p> <p>Background:</p> <p>Resolution authorizing NVRC to accept a contract with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality to provide expert training in the best management practices of the use of salt during the winter months.</p> <p>Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P22-32- Authorization to Submit A Congressional Direct Spending Request to the U.S. Senate Committee on Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, And Related Agencies. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.</p> <p>Background:</p> <p>Resolution authorizes NVRC to accept a Direct Spending Request to supplementing Community Flood Preparedness Fund grant funds would allow for the implementation of study results and the creation of a public-facing platform with real-time gauge data.</p>
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT	<p>Mr. Lazaro presented his report to the Commission, which included the financial report for March 2022 and the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working Together to Bring an HBCU to the Region

- NVRC Chairwoman Cydny A. Neville and several Commissioners travelled to Virginia State University (VSU) to meet with leaders from VSU and Norfolk State University about locating an HBCU in Northern Virginia.
- Helping the Refugees in Ukraine
 - We had an overwhelming positive response to the request for assistance for the refugees in Ukraine.
 - Donations by the Numbers
 - 55,000 pounds of materials were sorted and packed at the Oakton Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. This was the largest amount of materials ever processed at the church.
 - More than 400 volunteers helped sort and pack the boxes.
 - 1800 boxes of donations were filled at the Church.
 - The boxes if stacked on top of each other would be the equivalent of 6 ½ Washington Monuments stacked on top of each other.
 - There will be at least 6 tractor trailers being sent to Wilmington, NC to begin the journey of the items being sent to help refugees in Poland and Ukraine.
- Supporting Our Veterans and Military Spouses
 - NVRC is pleased to partner with our local government colleagues, Fort Belvoir and others to promote this event which will be held at the spectacular National Museum of the United States Army on May 11 and a virtual career fair on May 12.
- Sharing Our Work
 - NVRC's Executive Director was pleased to present on the success of our solar program at a conference sponsored by the International Urban and Regional Cooperation program (IURC) which is a European Union funded program across the globe. Three regions expressed an interest in replicating our program.
 - Sustainability practitioners from around the world attended the conference which was held in Kansas City, MO.
- Spaces for Remembrance

- NVRC Chairwoman Neville and Commissioner Chapman participated in a community-wide event in helping to inform the Alexandria community's effort on how best to display the tablets that will be arriving to the City from the National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, AL.
- Dale Medearis of NVRC was able to arrange for participants from Germany to attend the event. They have been leaders in their country on the memorialization of the victims of the Holocaust.
- Solarize NoVA Kicked Off April 1
 - NVRC's highly successful program with our local government partners and the Local Energy Alliance Program (LEAP) kicked off on April 1.
 - Sign-ups are being taken on their web site Solarizenova.org.
 - The campaign ends June 30.
- The Impact of our Solar & Energy Efficiency Work
 - Solar
 - 536 Contracts
 - \$12.1 Million in Private Sector Investment
 - 4,558 kW of solar
 - 6,168,114 kW generated
 - Energy Efficiency
 - 10,100+ Families Assisted
 - 6,954,969 kWh Saved
 - Combined Results
 - 10,251 Tons of CO2 Avoided
 - Equivalent to 2.5 wind
- Energy Efficiency Projects by Locality

CHAIRWOMAN'S REPORT

Chairwoman Neville commended the Executive Director and the NVRC staff on the great work and effort regarding organizing the Ukrainian blanket, coat, glove, and sock drive.

Chairwoman Neville also mentioned the Alexandria Remembrance event in which Chairwoman Neville and Commissioner Chapman participated. It was a community-wide event in helping to inform the

Alexandria community's effort on how best to display the tablets that will be arriving to the City from the National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, AL. Dale Medearis of NVRC was able to arrange for participants from Germany to attend the event. They have been leaders in their country on the memorialization of the victims of the Holocaust.

Commissioner Gaskins added that as part of the community remembrance project, a number of citizens, as well as the office of the historic Alexandria, libraries, and other partners, have been working to find ways to commemorate and honor the life and legacy of two individuals who were lynched in the city of Alexandria. A ceremony took place during which a eulogy was read and apologies from the Commonwealth's attorney, from the city of Alexandria, the Sheriff's department, and the Alexandria police were offered as nothing was done to stop these lynchings at the time.

Moreover, chairwoman Neville provided an update on building a presence for HBCUs and the actions of the NSU/VSU Special Committee.

- NVRC Chairwoman Cydney A. Neville and several Commissioners travelled to Virginia State University (VSU) to meet with leaders from VSU and Norfolk State University about locating an HBCU in Northern Virginia.
- Both universities expressed tremendous interest in creating a joint campus in our region.
- At the end of May, both universities will be meeting with the Northern Virginia Economic Development Alliance to explore who they can work with to make this project happen.
- Updates to follow in June!

COMMUNITY & MILITARY PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Gross invited everyone to attend the next Community and Military Partnership meeting on May 19, 2022, 10am-12pm. The meeting will take place in person and virtual. The agenda includes the following:

- 10:00 - 10:10 AM Welcome and Introductions
 - Co-Chairs Penny Gross, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and Victor Angry, Prince William County Board of Supervisors
- 10:10 – 10:20 AM Military Installation Resiliency Review Project Update
 - Christopher Landgraf, NVRC
- 10:20 – 10:30 Great American Defense Communities Award and Recognition Upcoming Recognition Events
 - Videotaping opportunities by ADC on July 26 & 27
 - Recognition events at installations and in the community
- 10:30 – 11:30 AM PANEL: CROSSING THE FENCELINE TO RETAIN A DEI WORKFORCE
 - Dr. Ingrid Herrera-Yee, Racial Equity & Inclusion Committee Co-Chair, Blue Star Families
 - CSM (Ret.) Victor Angry, U.S. Army, Neabsco District Supervisor, Prince William County, Virginia
 - Brig. Gen. Terrence A. Adams, Military Deputy Director of Concepts and Strategy Air Force Futures, HQ U.S. Air Force
 - Carl Reid (Ret. Army Colonel), Booz Allen Hamilton

- Marcela Compagnet-Orellana, Human Resource Director, EveryMind
- 11:30 – 11:45 AM DOD UPDATES
 - Bishop Garrison, Senior Advisor to the U.S. Secretary of Defense on Human Capital & DEI, Section 1051 of NDAA
 - Cyrus Salazar, Director, Department of Defense Office of DEI, 75th Anniversary of Executive Order 9981
- 11:45 – 11:55 AM DEFENSE COMMUNITY UPDATES
 - EveryMind Listening Sessions
 - Mount Vernon Historical Surveys
- 11:55 – 12:00 PM Action Items and Proposed Schedule
 - Co-Chairs

MIRR Workshops and Technical Review Committee Meetings are taking place:

- Workshop 1 held 23-24 March identified and ranked Climate Threats and Hazards:
 - High Priority Hazards
 - High Temperatures
 - Energy Demand
 - Coastal/Tidal Flooding
 - Pluvial Flooding
 - Fluvial/Inland Flooding
 - Medium Priority Hazards
 - Wind
 - Winter Weather
 - Low Priority Hazards
 - Drought
 - Wildfire
- Technical Review Committee meetings are scheduled for 3-5 May. Topics for discussion are:
 - Climate scenario and hazard recap
 - Review vulnerability assessment methodology and criteria
 - Preview climate mapping
- Workshop 2 scheduled for 7-9 June 2022

There are opportunities to capture Military-Community activities in Northern Virginia in response to Great American Defense Community Designation:

- In March of 2022, the Association of Defense Communities (ADC) named Northern Virginia to the 2022 Class of Great American Defense Communities
- The Great American Defense Communities program was launched by ADC in 2016 to recognize and celebrate the communities and regions that support military installations for their exceptional commitment to improving the lives of service members, veterans and their families
- This year, the Great American Defense Communities Program has a special focus on how communities are innovating and pioneering new ways to serve service members and their families – for NOVA, our efforts around diversity, equity, and inclusion stood out

- Looking for opportunities to capture video for an ADC video production on our diversity, equity, and inclusion activities. Events for video capture so far include:
 - 19 May – DEI panel at Community, Military, and Federal Facility Partnership meeting
 - 1 June -- Twilight Tatio Reception
 - 19 June – Juneteenth events in local community jurisdictions
 - 26-27 July – ADC schedule interviews with local military & community leaders
 - 28 Aug -- Legacy Day events including at the Jermantown Cemetery in the City of Fairfax

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Commission meeting minutes of March 24, 2022. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairwoman Neville adjourned the meeting at 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved by:

Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.
Executive Director

Cydny A. Neville
Chairwoman