

NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, May 26, 2022

COMMISSIONERS

(The names of those members present are highlighted.)

Hon. Walter L. Alcorn
Hon. Victor S. Angry
Hon. Andrea O. Bailey¹
Hon. Kenny A. Boddye
Hon. Juli E. Briskman²
Hon. Kelly Burk
Hon. John T. Chapman
Hon. Linda J. Colbert
Hon. Matt de Ferranti
Hon. Libby Garvey
Hon. Alyia Gaskins
Hon. Penelope A. Gross
Hon. Pat Herrity
Hon. Rodney L. Lusk
Hon. David Meyer, NVRC Vice Chairman
Hon. Cydney A. Neville, NVRC Chairwoman
Hon. Sheila A. Olem
Hon. Dalia A. Palchik³
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
County of Loudoun
Town of Leesburg
City of Alexandria
Town of Vienna
County of Arlington
County of Arlington
City of Alexandria
County of Fairfax
County of Fairfax
County of Fairfax
City of Fairfax
Town of Dumfries
Town of Herndon
County 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-Smith⁴
Normand Goulet
Christopher Landgraf⁵
Michelle Simmons
Peggy Tadej⁶

Executive Director
Deputy Director
Management Analyst
Environmental Services Director
Military Installation Resiliency Project Manager
Human Services Director
Director of Community and Military Partnerships

OTHERS PRESENT

Kevin Callahan
Marlon Dubuisson
Catherine Faust
Amy Harman
Radha Muthiah
Adam LaRose
William Paxton
Kristina Shimazaki
Cynthia Singiser

Paxton Van Lines Inc.
Office of Congressman Connolly
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
Capital Area Food Bank
Capital Area Food Bank
Paxton Van Lines Inc.
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
Capital Area Food Bank

¹ Joined virtually – with Chairwoman's permission

² Joined virtually – with Chairwoman's permission

³ Joined virtually – with Chairwoman's permission

⁴ Joined virtually

⁵ Joined virtually

⁶ Joined virtually

CALL TO ORDER

Chairwoman Neville called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

PRESENTATION

Recognizing Our Partners in Assisting the Ukrainian Refugees

We will be recognizing Catherine Faust and Kristina Shimazaki of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (Oakton Stake) and Bill Paxton and Kevin Callahan of The Paxton Companies for their collective efforts in assisting the region in this effort. Without their assistance this project could not be a reality.

Feeding Northern Virginia

As the anchor of hunger relief infrastructure that serves Arlington, Fairfax, and Prince William Counties, in addition to Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas, and Manassas Park cities, the pandemic presented an unprecedented level of need and approach to emergency response. At the height of the pandemic, demand for CAFB's services increased by nearly 200% and it is estimated food insecurity rates will remain nearly 30 percent greater in Northern Virginia relative to pre-pandemic. This presentation, led by the food bank's CEO, Radha Muthiah, will provide an overview of the food bank's COVID response and its plan to move from recovery to rebuild for the Commonwealth.

ACTION ITEMS

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P22-33–Amendment to Small Purchase Policy. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Background:

The Virginia Public Procurement Act allows public bodies to establish small purchase procedures – if adopted in writing – waiving the requirements for competitive bids or competitive negotiation for single or term contracts if the aggregate or the sum of all phases is not expected to exceed: \$80,000 for professional services, or \$200,000 for goods and services other than professional services or non-transportation-related construction. The Commission's current policy was adopted in 2010 and includes lower caps for small purchases. The amendment does not change the Commission requirement that all contracts in excess of \$10,000 require Commission approval.

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P22-34 - Authorizing the Executive Director to Sign an Inter-Governmental Support Agreement (IGSA) with the United States Navy and United States Air Force. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
REPORT

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

- Aid to Ukrainian Refugees
 - The donations for the refugees from Ukraine have all been delivered to North Carolina for shipping to Poland and Ukraine. In total more than 104,000 pounds of donations were shipped.
- Sharing with Barcelona and Boston
 - NVRC was pleased to host a delegation from Barcelona and Boston as part of the IURC program supported by the European Union. Grateful to our local government partners in Arlington, Alexandria, Fairfax County and the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority who assisted in the programming for their two day stay.
- Supporting Our Veterans and Military Spouses
 - The Career Fair was kicked off by Supervisor Dan Storck from Mount Vernon District; Dr. John Moeller, Fort Belvoir; and Mike Batt, of the Fairfax County Economic Development Corporation. Supervisor Rodney Lusk from Lee District and Colonel Josh SeGraves, Garrison Commander of Fort Belvoir were in attendance. Chris Landgraf, NVRC's MIRR Program Manager presented the Great American Defense Community flag.
 - Over 30 companies in the region were available to talk about helping transitioning military and spouses find employment opportunities in the region with 300 participants.
- Learning from our Partners in Stuttgart and Hamburg
 - Chairwoman Neville led a delegation to Stuttgart Region and Hamburg to meet with local, regional and state elected leaders and staff on a wide variety of sustainability, resiliency, climate change and affordable housing issues among others.
 - Both regions in Germany will be sending delegations to the United States. This program was to take place in 2020, but was cancelled twice due to COVID. A fuller report will be provided in the future.

CHAIRWOMAN'S REPORT

Chairwoman Neville had nothing to report.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
REPORT

The NVRC Nominating Committee met by conference call on Monday, May 23, to discuss a slate of candidates for the coming year. Members of the committee are: Penny Gross, Chair (Fairfax County); Kenny

Boddye (Prince William County), Juli Briskman (Loudoun County), Linda Colbert (Town of Vienna), Matt de Ferranti (Arlington County); Jeanette Rishell (City of Manassas Park), and David Tarter (City of Falls Church). A quorum was present, although Commissioners Briskman and Colbert were unable to participate in the conference call.

Commissioner Gross reported that the following slate of officers has been nominated for July 2022 – June 2023:

Honorable Cydny A. Neville (Town of Dumfries) – Chairwoman
Honorable John Chapman (City of Alexandria) – Vice Chairman
Honorable Kathy L. Smith (Fairfax County) – Treasurer

The vote to confirm the nominees will take place at the Commission's June meeting.

COMMUNITY & MILITARY PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Gross reported that the May 19 Community and Military Partnership meeting was a great success. The agenda included 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 Great American Defense Communities Award and Recognition
 - Matt Baron, Exec. Dir., ADC Presentation of Flag to Northern Virginia
 - Videotaping opportunities by ADC on July 26 & 27
 - Recognition events at installations and in the community
- 10:20 – 10:30 AM Military Installation Resiliency Review Project Update
 - Christopher Landgraf, NVRC
- 10:30 – 10:45 AM DOD Updates
 - BG Adams, 75th Anniversary of the Executive Order 9981
 - Cyrus Salazar, Director, Department of Defense Office of DEI Human Capital & DEI, Section 1051 of NDAA
- 10:45 – 11:45 AM PANEL: CROSSING THE FENCELINE TO RETAIN A DEI WORKFORCE
 - Ashley Scott, Moderator and Policy and Outreach Fellow, Blue Star Families
 - 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
- 11:45 – 11:55 AM DEFENSE COMMUNITY UPDATES
 - Aimee Stoddard, EveryMind Listening Sessions
 - Carl Reid, Mount Vernon Historical Surveys
 - Approval to move resolution to apply to VA for VETSDRIVEVETS to the Commission
- 11:55 – 12:00 PM Action Items and Proposed Schedule

- Co-Chairs

Follow-up actions include:

- Mr. Salazar will provide a presentation at the next bi-monthly meeting on the DoD-wide climate survey. He will invite Dr. Andra Tharp with the DoD Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office to assist with the presentation.” <https://www.sapr.mil/sites/default/files/public/docs/reports/MSA/Appendix G ACNS Executive Summary MSA APY20-21.pdf>
- Next Listening Session hosted by EveryMind will be on June 21 and will focus on female veterans. Andrea Bailey asked to participate. This will be an in-person event hosted at NVRC
- Currently, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits are calculated based on military family income including the Basic Allowance for Housing (BAH). See this article <https://www.militaryfamily.org/its-time-to-remove-bah-from-snap-calculations/> Going forward, one should consider removing BAH from SNAP calculations to help military families.
- Committee agreed to explore the grant opportunity with Veterans Administration for the VETSDRIVEVETS DEMO. On May 20th, the Executive Director of NVRC indicated that due to a variety of liabilities and staffing requirements, the grant opportunity, while a good idea, will not be pursued.
- Committee agreed to drill down further on the ability of military family members to transfer professional licenses across state lines. There are Federal, State and local considerations that need to be addressed to make transfer of licenses easier in support of military family employment.
- “Blue Star Families” will be releasing its annual Military Family Lifestyle Survey (aMFLS) soon and has been providing this comprehensive understanding of the experience and challenges encountered by military families since 2009. “Blue Star Families” is available to brief survey results and can provide a POC for this if desired. The website will go live on May 23rd.: <https://bluestarfam.org/survey2022/>

Commissioner Gross also invited everyone to attend the next Community and Military Partnership meeting on July 21, 2022, 10am-12pm.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Commission meeting minutes of April 28, 2022. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairwoman Neville adjourned the meeting at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved by:

Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.
Executive Director

Cydney A. Neville
Chairwoman