

NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, September 23, 2021

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. Bailey¹	<i>County of Prince William</i>
Hon. Elizabeth Bennett-Parker²	<i>City of Alexandria</i>
Hon. Kenny A. Boddye³	<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, alternate Hon. Steve Potter	<i>Town of Vienna</i>
Hon. Matt de Ferranti	<i>County of Arlington</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. Rodney L. Lusk	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. David Meyer, NVRC Vice Chairman	<i>City of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Cydney A. Neville, NVRC Chairwoman⁴	<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 ⁵	<i>Management Analyst</i>
Normand Goulet	<i>Environmental Services Director</i>
Nora Jackson	<i>Resiliency Planner</i>
Jill Kaneff	<i>Regional Demographer</i>
Corey Miles	<i>Senior Environmental Coastal Resources Program Manager</i>
Michelle Simmons ⁶	<i>Human Services Director</i>
Debbie Spiliotopoulos ⁷	<i>Solid Waste Program Planner</i>
Peggy Tadej	<i>Director of Community and Military Partnerships</i>

OTHERS

Jonathan Goodall	<i>University of Virginia</i>
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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

⁷ Joined virtually

CALL TO ORDER Chairwoman Neville called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

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

PRESENTATION **Climate Change and its Impact on Northern Virginia**

The Virginia General Assembly directed the Joint Commission on Technology and Science to study the safety, quality of life and economic consequences of weather and climate-related events on coastal areas in Virginia. This includes communities in Northern Virginia.

Dr. Jonathan Goodall, a professor of Civil Engineering Systems and Environment at the University of Virginia, was the Co-chair of the Study Board on this project. Dr. Goodall presented the findings of the report and the recommendations which included better coordination and communication among State agencies and in cooperation with local governments which bear the brunt of the impact of climate change in their communities.

2020 Census Data

The first of the 2020 Census data has been released. Jill Kaneff, NVRC's Regional Demographer, provided a briefing on her initial findings on the data that was released.

ACTION ITEMS Commissioner Boddye moved approval of the Resolution No. P22-5– Authorization to accept and subcontract housing opportunities for people with AIDS (HOPWA) 2021-2022 Funds in Northern Virginia. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bailey and carried unanimously.

Background:

Authorization for NVRC to accept and contract for \$2.4 million HOPWA funds through September 30, 2022, as well as any additional HOPWA funds that may be identified for use in Suburban Northern Virginia. Resolution authorizes Executive Director to execute agreements with DC HASTA and with subcontractors.

Commissioner Boddye moved approval of the Resolution No. P22-6– Authorization to accept continued bicycle and pedestrian safety grant from the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bailey and carried unanimously.

Background:

NVRC since 2005 has been offering the only regional and statewide opportunity for all safety staff and advocates to work together, and the only safety guides with the laws and best practices for Virginia for bicyclists, pedestrians and motorists. The resolution authorizes the expenditures for bike and pedestrian safety education efforts throughout the region and Commonwealth utilizing DMV funding.

Commissioner Boddye moved approval of the Resolution No. P22-7– Authorization to support the Plant NoVA Trees Campaign. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bailey and carried unanimously.

Background:

NVRC developed the Plant NoVA Natives campaign as part of the overall effort to reduce the amount of pollution caused by stormwater runoff. The Native plant campaign has spun off several similar efforts in the Commonwealth. The campaign is volunteer based and includes several local government/NGO/private sector partners. The resolution expresses the Commission’s support to permit NVRC staff support to provide assistance to the Plant NoVA Trees campaign.

Commissioner Boddye moved approval of the Resolution No. P22-8 – Acceptance of grant funding and establishment of new staff position related to Military Installation Resiliency Project. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bailey and carried unanimously.

Background:

NVRC has been awarded a \$1.5 million grant for resiliency planning with Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Fort Belvoir and USMCB Quantico. The resolution authorizes the acceptance of the grant and establishes a new staff position to assist NVRC in implementing the proposal. The position is temporary in nature funded for the grant period of 18 months.

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR’S
REPORT

Mr. Lazaro presented his report to the Commission, which included the financial report for July and August 2021 and the following:

- Testifying in Richmond
 - Jill Kaneff, our Regional Demographer, was pleased to appear before the Virginia Minority Business Commission on the findings of our joint report entitled: Supporting Northern Virginia’s Minority Owned Businesses.
 - Jill appeared with Elizabeth Hughes of the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia.
- Resilience Grant Won by NVRC
 - NVRC has been notified by the Office of Local Defense Community Cooperation (OLDCC) that we have been awarded a \$1.5 million grant to work with Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Fort Belvoir and Marine Corps Base Quantico on base/community resilience issues. This grant will run through June 30, 2023.
 - The goal of the NVRC Military Installation Resilience Review (MIRR) is to support the long-term resilience and sustainability of the three bases (Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Fort Belvoir, Marine Corps Base Quantico), and the surrounding communities in Northern Virginia.

- Clean Water Partners 2021 Report Issued
 - NVRC is proud to help coordinate among our local government partners and others the Clean Water Partners campaign to assist in the MS4 permit education requirements and to prevent pollution.

- Plant NoVA Trees Campaign
 - NVRC is pleased to partner with our volunteers at the Plant NoVA Native campaign to launch a Plant NoVA Trees campaign.
 - Their web site can be found at:

<https://www.plantnovatrees.org>

- Northern Virginia Regional Elected Leaders Summit
 - NVRC was pleased to be a co-sponsor of the NoVA Regional Elected Leaders Summit with the Arlington, Alexandria, Loudoun, Northern Virginia and Prince William Chambers of Commerce.

- Housing Grant Update
 - Numerous meetings held with local governments and NGOs in region along with several meetings with Virginia Housing.
 - Have engaged consultant to help us review draft application that will be mailed out to local governments and NGOs to be considered for participation in the project.

- Welcome Nora Jackson
 - NVRC is pleased to welcome Nora to our Environmental and Resiliency Planning team. Nora is a graduate of the College of William and Mary with a degree in Governmental and Environmental Science.
 - Following graduation in 2015 she moved to Annapolis, MD to work for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation with their farm stewardship team installing riparian forest buffers across the state and continued working with farmers and landowners as an Easement Stewardship Specialist with the Maryland Environmental Trust. Her last two years have been spent at the Chesapeake Bay Program as staff for the Maintain Healthy Watersheds GIT, working on projects and developing resources related to land conservation and watershed health.

- NVRC Meeting Schedule
 - NVRC's remaining meetings for 2021 are as follows:

- October 28
 - Preliminary FY22 Budget
 - Fiscal Year 21 Audit Presentation
- December 9
- There is no November meeting.

CHAIRWOMAN'S REPORT

Chairwoman Neville applauded the NVRC staff for all their hard work and continued dedication for moving the region forward as #onenovaregion.

Chairwoman Neville also reminded the Commissioners that a meeting is taking place virtually on Monday, September 27 at 7pm regarding the HBCU initiative. The State Council of Higher Education will be giving a presentation on their process and all Commissioners are invited to attend as this Committee meeting will provide guidance on how to proceed with the HBCU initiative.

Chairwoman Neville also asked Commissioners to email her if there is anything Commissioners would like to see discussed at future meetings.

Chairwoman Neville concluded her report by reminding everyone to mask up and get vaccinated

COMMUNITY & MILITARY PARTNERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Gross reported that the September 9 Community and Military Partnership Meeting was a great success.

Commissioner Gross also reported that the new Commanding Officer at the Marine Corps Base Quantico is Col Brooks and that Quantico will be a recipient of 4,000 Afghan refugees. Immediate ways to help are:

- Donate to Team Rubicon (www.teamubicousa.org)
- Dial 211 for local information on drop-off sites
- Donate to the Refugee Processing Center
- Support of the Virginia's Refugee Resettlement Programs (www.dss.virginia.gov/community/ona/refugee_services.cgi)

Commissioner Gross also invited Commissioners to attend the upcoming Community and Military Partnership Meeting scheduled to be held virtually on December 2 at 10 am. Commissioner Angry is going to be leading it. The Virginia Military Factbook will be discussed.

Follow-up actions are to complete the DEI Roadmap and determine if a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Alliance for the Region is needed.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Commissioner Boddye moved approval of the Commission meeting minutes of July 22, 2021. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bailey and carried. Commissioner Gross and Commissioner Burk abstained.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairwoman Neville adjourned the meeting at 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.
Executive Director

Approved by:

Cydny A. Neville
Chairwoman