

NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, July 23, 2015

COMMISSIONERS

(The names of those members present are highlighted.)

Hon. Sharon Bulova
Hon. David S. Butler
Hon. Peter Candland
Hon. Janet Clarke
Hon. John C. Cook
Hon. Laurie A. Dirocco
Hon. Jay Fissette
Hon. Gerald M. Foreman II
Hon. Kwasi Fraser
Hon. Libby Garvey
Hon. Penelope A. Gross, NVRC Chairman
Hon. Pat Herrity
Hon. Catherine Hudgins
Hon. Frank Jones
Hon. Jeffrey C. McKay
Hon. Lisa C. Merkel
Hon. Martin E. Nohe
Hon. Harry J. Parrish II
Hon. Redella S. Pepper, NVRC Treasurer
Hon. Frank J. Principi
Hon. R. Scott Silverthorne
Hon. Paul C. Smedberg
Hon. Linda Smyth
Hon. David Tarter
Hon. Scott K. York

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

STAFF PRESENT

G. Mark Gibb
Linda M. Tenney
Gina Kesselmann-Smith
Ken Billingsley
Jeongmin Kim
Robert Lazaro
David Schwengel
Michelle Simmons
Peggy Tadej
Erica Wohlleben

Executive Director
Deputy Director
Executive Assistant
Director, Demographics and Information
NVRC international intern
Director, Regional Energy Planning
Director, Regional Business Planning
Director, Human Services
No. Va. Regional BRAC Coordinator
NVRC intern

OTHERS PRESENT

Barry H. Biggar
Katie Boyle
Mein Cetiner
Osman Dulgeroglu
Deborah Johnson
Bill Knight
Carolyn Moss
F. Kevin Reynolds
Dan Weekley

President/CEO, Visit Fairfax
Fairfax County staff
Former General Director of Kimse Yok Mu
CEO, Embrace Relief
Manager for Regional State & Local Affairs, Dominion Virginia Power
President/CEO, Fairfax 2015/World Police & Fire Games
Managing Director, State and Local Affairs, Dominion Virginia Power
President, Cardinal Bank
VP of Public and Government Affairs, Dominion Virginia Power

- CALL TO ORDER Chairman Gross called the meeting to order at 7:35 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.
- MINUTES Commissioner York moved approval of the Commission meeting minutes of June 25, 2015. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Fraser and carried unanimously.
- PRESENTATION 1 Chairman Gross introduced and welcomed Bill Knight (President/CEO of the Fairfax 2015/World Police & Fire Games), F. Kevin Reynolds, (President of the Cardinal Bank) and Barry H. Biggar (President/CEO of Visit Fairfax) and added that the World Police & Fire Games were a huge success.

Mr. Knight started out with giving an overview of the games and saying that he was thrilled about their results and then showed the Commissioners a short video that summarized the games.

Mr. Knight also commented on the fatal cycling accident that happened during the games and that the core of this event, the police, the fire and rescue and the sheriff's office from Fairfax County was absolutely phenomenal during this time. Mr. Knight added how proud he was of this public safety who handled this so well.

Then Mr. Biggar thanked the Commission for the great success of these games and that it was great to see how the region can come together.

Mr. Biggar then proceeded with talking about the economic impact the World Police & Fire Games had on the region: He emphasized that the numbers are only an estimate and the model that is being used to calculate these numbers is a very important one, one that was developed by Oxford Economics, is accepted and highly valued and was specifically created for sports events like the World Police & Fire Games. 71 countries were represented and 10,006 athletes with a result of over \$ 49,240,000 left in the region plus an additional 33 Million due to a multiplier effect. So all together we are looking at 83 Million left in the region. This puts the region on the map. And he also added that due to a great outcome like this maybe the National Senior Games should take place in this region as well.

Mr. Reynolds concluded with saying that these games were a team effort. The region came together, had a mission and accomplished it.

Questions and answers

Commissioner Gross commented that this was a 10-year effort to bring the games to this region and it was a remarkable series of events. And she also commented on the tragic accident that happened during these games and that it was remarkable how the community came together.

Commissioner Bulova added that this event was well planned and it paid off. It is a new experience to put on a big event like that. The region did a great job and this should be a focus in our region. She also added that this should be developed in the regional portfolio.

Commissioner McKay brought up the 5,000 volunteers and that these games wouldn't be as successful as they were without these volunteers. And he also mentioned how compassionate the business community is. The example Commissioner McKay used was that some businesses came together and without publicity paid for all the expenses in the tragic accident that occurred during the games.

Commissioner Foreman thanked the organizers of the games for the outreach, as they called every town and offered tickets. He added that this made his town feel like they are a part of the program.

Commissioner York congratulated Fairfax County and the organizers. He did ask for an earlier invite of the jurisdictions next time if there is another event like this.

PRESENTATION 2 Chairman Gross introduced and welcomed Dan Weekley, who is the Vice President of Public and Government Affairs at Dominion Virginia Power.

Mr. Weekley distributed printed copies of the Dominion report and went through the slides:

- Rate Reduction as of April 1
- Residential Rate Comparison
- Industrial Rate Comparison
- Reliability Improvements
- Forces Driving Infrastructure Need
- Generator Retirements in PJM
- Integrated Resource Plan
- Regional Approach to Planning
- Impacts to the Planning Models
- Focus on Dominion Assets
- Northern Virginia Transmission Infrastructure Projects
- Winter 2015: Natural Gas Prices for Dominion Zone Surge Again
- Investing in Virginia: Atlantic Coast Pipeline
- Survey Permission Comparison by County
- Investing in Virginia: Projected Capital Spend 2015-2020: Total \$13.6 billion

Mr. Weekley emphasized that Dominion is open to any ideas on where the pipelines and distributions are.

Questions and answers

Commissioner Butler questioned the numbers in the 2nd slide presented by Dominion and added that the focus should be on conservation, and not on building power stations.

Mr. Weekley commented that it is hard to make people conserve, if the rates are so low.

Commissioner York appreciated the presentation and shared with the group that he is concerned about where the new power lines are being put in. It is happening right in front of the new hospital, on the Route 50.

Commissioner Fraser added that he would like to see the transmission lines buried due to potential danger of drones.

Mr. Weekley explained that Dominion is taking the lines that have the poorest quality and takes care of those first. As far as burying the lines this is a legal issue. It is not possible to put lines underground if people are against it.

Commissioner Nohe thanked Dominion for providing electricity.

PRESENTATION 3 Chairman Gross welcomed the next presenters and referred to Commissioner York for their introduction. Commissioner York then introduced Osman Dulgeroglu, who is the CEO of Embrace Relief, and Metin Cetiner, former General Director of Kimse Yok Mu.

Commissioner York pointed out page 22 and 23 in the 2014 Annual Report of Embrace Relief (distributed at the Commission meeting). 9,300,000 people have been affected by the Syrian crisis and 5,000 Syrians become refugees daily, losing their homes, belongings, and sometimes their families. He also added that the UN has cut back on

funding and this is making it very tough.

Commissioner York then announced that there is going to be another blanket drive this year. This year it will be slightly modified. Not only blankets but also jackets will be collected. And this sort of help will also go out to the localities here. Paxton Company is ready to help again like last year. But Maersk Shipping still needs to be asked and then the planning of the 2015 Blanket Drive can go forward.

The Commissioners then watched a video regarding the Syrian situation and the refuge in Turkey.

Mr. Dulgeroglu thanked the Commission for their previous effort and campaign. In 2013 there were 4 containers of blankets and \$15,000; in 2014, 6 containers of blankets and \$110,000. This provided food for 4 months and 4,000 refugees daily.

Mr. Cetiner thanked the Commission as well, especially Commissioner York, Mr. Lazaro (NVRC staff) and Mr. Gibb (Executive Director, NVRC) for coming out and distributing all the donations. Now coats are needed. And to see the situation by visiting is really important. The kids need education, e.g. supporting a learning center would be great.

Questions and answers

Commissioner York added that the next blanket drive would be around the November timeframe, so the containers can make it to Turkey in January. Unfortunately, it is not possible to get them there sooner, because November is the best time for the shipping company to be able to do it for free.

Chairman Gross recommended to do something for the kids there. Education is so important. The kids there need social and moral structure. Otherwise a whole generation will be lost.

Commissioner York commented that shipping cost is always an issue, when different things are being shipped. That is why financial help might be better for the kids, e.g., establishing learning centers.

CONSENT AGENDA

Upon a motion made and duly seconded, the Consent Agenda consisting of the items outlined below was approved.

- **Resolution No. P16-01:** Authorization for the Executive Director to execute Memoranda of Understanding with organizations that will provide training sessions on bicyclist and pedestrian safety

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Printed copies of the report were distributed and Mr. Gibb went through the slides:

- Solarize Campaign Update
- Congratulations to Town of Vienna
- Workforce Event – September 22
- Living Shoreline Project at Leesylvania State Park
- Bicycle Pedestrian Safety Sharing the Road Events: Celebrating Road Safety
- Fast Ferry Summit – October 22
- Fair Housing Testing and Related Services

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Gross talked about the Workforce Summit that is taking place September 22, 2015. She added that the location is set, letters of invitations are going out, and the Governor of Virginia is confirmed for this event.

COMMUNITY & MILITARY PARTNERSHIP

Commissioner McKay announced that the next Military Partnership Meeting is September 10, 2015 at the NVRC offices and that Secretary of Veterans and Defense Affairs of Virginia John Harvey will be the speaker.

COMMITTEE
REPORT

ELECTION OF OFFICERS In the last Commission Meeting the Nominating Committee proposed the following slate of officers for July 2015 – June 2016:

Hon. Penelope A. Gross	(Fairfax County)	Chairman
Hon. Lisa C. Merkel	(Town of Herndon)	Vice Chairman
Hon. Redella S. Pepper	(City of Alexandria)	Treasurer

Commissioner Nohe, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, moved acceptance of the slate of officers. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McKay and carried unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION Chairman Gross announced that the Executive Committee will meet and come back to the Commission in September.

ADJOURNMENT Chairman Gross adjourned the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

G. Mark Gibb
Executive Director

Approved by:

Penelope Gross,
Chairman