

NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, February 23, 2017

COMMISSIONERS

(The names of those members present are highlighted.)

Hon. Marc T. Aveni
Hon. Willie F. Bailey
Hon. Sharon Bulova
Hon. Kelly Burk
Hon. Peter Candland
Hon. John C. Cook, NVRC Treasurer
Hon. Laurie A. Dirocco, NVRC Chairman
Hon. Gerald M. Foreman II
Hon. Kwasi Fraser, alt. **Hon. Doug McCollum**
Hon. Libby Garvey
Hon. Penelope A. Gross
Hon. Pat Herrity
Hon. Geary Higgins
Hon. Catherine Hudgins
Hon. Jeffrey C. McKay
Hon. Lisa C. Merkel, alt. **Hon. Sheila Olem**
Hon. David Meyer
Hon. Martin E. Nohe
Hon. Redella S. Pepper
Hon. Frank J. Principi
Hon. Phyllis J. Randall
Hon. Jeanette Rishell
Hon. Kathy L. Smith
Hon. David Tarter
Hon. John Vihstadt

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

STAFF PRESENT

Robert Lazaro
Linda M. Tenney
Normand Goulet
Michelle Simmons
Peggy Tadej

Acting Executive Director
Deputy Director
Senior Environmental Planner/IT Manager
Director, Human Services
No. Va. Regional BRAC Coordinator

OTHERS PRESENT

- CALL TO ORDER** Chairman DiRocco called the meeting to order at 7:30 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.
- DISCUSSION** On February 4 members of the Commission held a planning retreat. Fifteen members of the Commission attended. Chairman DiRocco referred to the report developed by retreat moderator, Mr. Joseph Mangino, from the comments and notes received from the meeting. Purpose of the discussion was for the Commission to talk about the next steps with respect to the issues raised by members at the retreat.
- The discussion topics were:
- Governance
 - Energy
 - Workforce/Affordable Housing
 - Economic Development
- ADOPTION OF ACTION ITEMS** Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Action Items, consisting of the items outlined below. The motion was duly seconded and carried unanimously.
- Resolution P17-12 - Authorizing NVRC to Receive and Subcontract 2017-2018 Part A Funds for Services under the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act of 2009
 - Resolution P17-13 – Authorizing NVRC to Receive and Subcontract 2017-2018 Part B Funds for Services Under the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act of 2009
 - Resolution P17-14 – Adoption of revised FY17 Budget
 - Resolution P17-15 – Bike/Pedestrian Safety Grant
 - Resolution P17-16 – Authorization to Submit a Technical Assistance Grant Proposal to Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program
- ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** Mr. Lazaro presented his report to the Commission, which included the financial report for January 2017, a budget update and the following:
- Trails Webinar Success
 - NVRC hosted and moderated a webinar with 33 participants from throughout Northern Virginia, DC and the Commonwealth to discuss the long range trails and how they can benefit and connect to local parks, communities, and attractions. Discussion covered planning, economic benefits, available funding sources, and health benefits, and the wealth of long range trails within the Northern Virginia region. Presenters included the National Park Service, the Capital Trails Coalition, Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, NovaPark's W&OD Trail, and the East Coast Greenways.
 - Statewide Best Practices Award
 - The Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC) is pleased its regional solar map project won a statewide best practices award from the Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions
 - The Robert M. deVoursney Best Practices Award recognizes organizations that have initiated regional activities, which have contributed significantly to the effectiveness of a region. The award

recognizes innovation, excellence, commitment and/or service to the advancement of regional planning and multijurisdictional cooperation. The award showcases the creative work and ability to leverage resources and services of Virginia's PDCs.

- Commission Retreat
 - Dr. Scott Ralls of the Northern Virginia Community College shared some very interesting data points about Northern Virginia and the regional economy.
 - Northern Virginia accounts for 46% of the economy of the 6th largest metropolitan area of the US.
 - 4th ranked metropolitan area in jobs advertised in 2016.
 - Northern Virginia accounted for 83% of Virginia's job growth in 2014.
 - 23.5% of all jobs currently advertised in NoVA are computer related.
 - 17% of all cyber security jobs advertised in the US in 2016 were in NoVA.
 - Northern Virginia Community College has grown cyber program to now more than 1,000 students.

- Telling Our Story
 - Web Site Unique Visits 2016
 - Plant NoVA Natives – 55,844
 - NVRC – 14,662
 - NoVA Solar Map – 9,682 (8/1 to 12/31)
 - NoVA Regional Dashboard – 147 (9/1 to 12/31)
 - Share VA Roads – 10,128
 - Clean Water Partners - 19,988
 - Total Unique Visits – 110,451
 - Social Media 2016
 - Twitter - 135,979 impressions
 - Facebook - 174,202 impressions
 - Total Impressions - 210,181
 - E-Newsletter 2016
 - Number - 254
 - Opens - 7775
 - Clicks – 3608
 - 2017 Quick Guides
 - 20,000 Printed and Distributed
 - 2017 Share VA Road Guides
 - 45,000 Printed and Distributed

- TransAtlantic Climate Bridge
 - NVRC staff were guests of the German Embassy to discuss climate and energy partnerships between the US and Germany. Participants at the discussions included officials from the German Embassy, US and German business, environment, research and NGO communities. The discussions highlighted the multiple ways that the US and Germany could work together on climate and energy issues. Special emphasis was given to the vital role that state, regional and local governments in both countries must to support climate and energy programs and job creation. NVRC's contributions to creating the TransAtlantic Climate Bridge program in 2008 with the German government were recognized and praised.

- Population Growth in NoVA
 - Weldon-Cooper Population Estimates have been released. Northern Virginia represents 54% of population growth in Commonwealth since 2010 Census.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT Chairman DiRocco announced that Commissioner Tarter will be running next month's Commission meeting, as she won't be able to attend the March meeting.

CLOSED SESSION Upon a motion made in accordance with Virginia Code No. 2.2, Section 3711 and duly seconded, the Commission decided unanimously to enter into closed session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters.

Upon a motion made and duly seconded, the Commission reconvened in public session and certified that only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the closed session by the Commission.

MINUTES Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Commission meeting minutes of January 26, 2017. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bulova and carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS Commissioner Gross mentioned that one should be able to use resources more efficiently and be able to share information, especially in human services and mental health, in order to be able to serve the people who will be demanding these services. She added that the Chief Administrative Officers were asked to weigh in on this to find a solution.

ADJOURNMENT Chairman DiRocco adjourned the meeting at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.
Acting Executive Director

Approved by:

Laurie A. DiRocco
Chairman