

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION**

**Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, May 25, 2017**

**COMMISSIONERS**

(The names of those members present are highlighted.)

Hon. Marc T. Aveni	<i>City of Manassas</i>
<b>Hon. Willie F. Bailey</b>	<b><i>City of Alexandria</i></b>
<b>Hon. Sharon Bulova</b>	<b><i>County of Fairfax</i></b>
<b>Hon. Kelly Burk</b>	<b><i>Town of Leesburg</i></b>
Hon. Peter Candland	<i>County of Prince William</i>
<b>Hon. John C. Cook, NVRC Treasurer</b>	<b><i>County of Fairfax</i></b>
<b>Hon. Laurie A. Dirocco, NVRC Chairman</b>	<b><i>Town of Vienna</i></b>
Hon. Gerald M. Foreman II	<i>Town of Dumfries</i>
Hon. Kwasi Fraser, alt. Hon. Doug McCollum	<i>Town of Purcellville</i>
<b>Hon. Libby Garvey (via conference call)</b>	<b><i>County of Arlington</i></b>
<b>Hon. Penelope A. Gross</b>	<b><i>County of Fairfax</i></b>
Hon. Pat Herrity	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Geary Higgins	<i>County of Loudoun</i>
Hon. Catherine Hudgins	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
<b>Hon. Jeffrey C. McKay</b>	<b><i>County of Fairfax</i></b>
<b>Hon. Sheila Olem</b>	<b><i>Town of Herndon</i></b>
Hon. David Meyer	<i>City of Fairfax</i>
<b>Hon. Martin E. Nohe</b>	<b><i>County of Prince William</i></b>
<b>Hon. Redella S. Pepper</b>	<b><i>City of Alexandria</i></b>
<b>Hon. Frank J. Principi</b>	<b><i>County of Prince William</i></b>
Hon. Phyllis J. Randall	<i>County of Loudoun</i>
<b>Hon. Jeanette Rishell</b>	<b><i>City of Manassas Park</i></b>
<b>Hon. Kathy L. Smith</b>	<b><i>County of Fairfax</i></b>
<b>Hon. David Tarter, NVRC Vice-Chairman</b>	<b><i>City of Falls Church</i></b>
<b>Hon. John Vihstadt</b>	<b><i>County of Arlington</i></b>

**STAFF PRESENT**

Robert Lazaro	<i>Executive Director</i>
Linda M. Tenney	<i>Deputy Director</i>
Gina Kesselmann-Smith	<i>Executive Assistant</i>
Normand Goulet	<i>Senior Environmental Planner/IT Manager</i>
Michelle Simmons	<i>Director, Human Services</i>
Peggy Tadej	<i>No. Va. Regional BRAC Coordinator</i>

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Claudia Arko	<i>Fairfax County</i>
Bryan Foster	<i>City of Manassas</i>
Jeremy McPike	<i>VA Senator</i>
J. Randall Minchew	<i>VA Delegate</i>
Ellen Volo	<i>Fairfax County Government Relations</i>
Vivian Watts	<i>VA Delegate</i>

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\* Commissioner Garvey participated remotely from Arlington due to medical reasons.

- CALL TO ORDER** Chairman DiRocco called the meeting to order at 7:39 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** Issues Follow Up
- Delegate Randy Minchew, Delegate Vivian Watts and State Senator Jeremy McPike joined the Commission to discuss governance issues and how local governments can work more closely with the State in areas of mutual concern.
- ACTION ITEMS** Commissioner Principi moved approval of the Resolution No. P17-17 – Authorization to Executive Agreement for M-495 Commuter Fast Ferry on the Potomac – Project Development Phase Woodbridge to JBAB/National Harbor/SE SW DC. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gross and carried unanimously.
- The Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC) has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$174,000 by Maritime Administration to conduct an infrastructure gap analysis for commuter fast ferry service. The contract is with Nelson/Nygaard Consulting Associates, Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$150,000 through December 31, 2017.
- Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P17-18 – Authorizing the Executive Director to sign an agreement with the Community Foundation for Northern Virginia. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bulova and carried unanimously.
- The Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC) has received grant funding in the past from the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program to coordinate the Plant NoVA Natives Campaign. The FY17 priorities of the Virginia Coastal Zone Management are focused on building coastal resilience and promoting shellfish aquaculture and ecotourism. The existing grant funding for the Plant NOVA Natives Campaign expires September 30, 2017. The Resolution permits the Executive Director to enter into an agreement with the Community Foundation to assist in raising private sector funds to support the Plant NoVA Natives Campaign. As some corporations and foundations will not make donations to a government entity, this allows interested donors to make a contribution to the Community Foundation to support the program. The Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority has entered into a similar agreement with the Foundation.
- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** Mr. Lazaro presented his report to the Commission, which included the financial report for April 2017 and the following:
- Four Mile Run Restoration Project Update
    - Arlington side of the 4 Mile Run project is under construction. Anticipated completion is in June.
    - Completed wetland restoration on the Alexandria portion of the project
  - Community/Military Partnership Meeting
    - NVRC's Community/Military Partnership Committee had a well attended round table discussion on cyber.

- Further, an MOU was signed with Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall related to commuter services information.
- Solarize Update
  - Solarize By the Numbers
    - 854 Signed up for Solarize NoVA Spring 2017
    - 232 Signed up for Solarize PEC Spring 2017
    - 11 Contracts to Date
    - 85.785 kW of new solar
    - 916.83 kW of new solar all campaigns
    - 120 contracts
    - \$3,081,148 in contract value
    - 3795 Sign Ups
    - Next campaign will be in Loudoun County in the Fall
  - We had a well attended meeting in the City of Fairfax on May 15 with several more community meetings scheduled regarding Solarize.
- Plant NoVA Natives
  - Plant NOVA Natives has been very busy this spring! We have welcomed the season at outreach events throughout the region. Our dedicated pool of volunteers helped to amplify our message of sustainable gardening at Greensprings Retirement Community's Earth Day, Burke Center Earth Day, NVCC Green Festival, Northern Alexandria Plant Sale, Reston Association Spring Festival, Huntley Meadows Park's Wetlands Awareness Day, and more!
- Executive Director Outreach
  - Have undertaken efforts to reach out to City/County/Town managers and other parties of interest. Meetings held to date include:
    - Manassas
    - Leesburg
    - Herndon
    - Fairfax City
    - Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions
    - Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce
  - Meetings scheduled include:
    - Falls Church
    - Loudoun County
    - Vienna
    - Bill Shelton, VA Department of Community and Housing Development
  - Two new Commissioner orientations were held in May.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT      Chairman DiRocco invited everyone to come to the Town of Vienna's ViVa Vienna Memorial Day Festival May 27<sup>th</sup> – May 29<sup>th</sup>.

MINUTES                      Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Commission meeting minutes of April 27, 2017. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith and carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Gross reported on the Community & Military Partnership Meeting that took place on May 11.

The top three topics included:

- **WORKFORCE:** Cyber awareness needs to start at early education from K – 12 grade with simple “cyber hygiene” and be carried into the workforce.
- **POLICY:** changes to provide for Cyber positions that are not degree dependent or have several levels for on-the-job training
- **PRODUCT INTEGRITY:** Cyber is cropping up but there is no one place that is tracking and/or reporting and communicating.

Commissioner Gross encouraged Commissioners to come to the next Community & Military Partnership Meeting on July 13 – 10 a.m. at the NVRC office.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman DiRocco adjourned the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.  
Executive Director

Approved by:

Laurie A. DiRocco  
Chairman