

NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, May 26, 2005

COMMISSIONERS

(The names of those present are highlighted)

Commissioner Hilda M. Barg	<i>County of Prince William</i>
Commissioner Melvin Bray	<i>Town of Dumfries</i>
Commissioner Sharon Bulova	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Commissioner Gerald E. Connolly, NVRC Treasurer	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Commissioner W. S. Covington, III	<i>County of Prince William</i>
Commissioner Joan Cross	<i>City of Fairfax</i>
Commissioner William T. Druhan, Jr.	<i>Town of Purcellville</i>
Commissioner Joan DuBois	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Commissioner Barbara A. Favola, NVRC Vice Chairman	<i>County of Arlington</i>
Commissioner Robin Gardner	<i>City of Falls Church</i>
Commissioner Penelope A. Gross	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Commissioner Catherine Hudgins	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Commissioner Elaine N. McConnell	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Commissioner Martin E. Nohe	<i>County of Prince William</i>
Commissioner Michael O'Reilly	<i>Town of Herndon</i>
Commissioner Harry J. Parrish, II	<i>City of Manassas</i>
Commissioner Bryan Polk	<i>City of Manassas Park</i>
Commissioner Redella S. Pepper	<i>City of Alexandria</i>
Commissioner M. Jane Seeman	<i>Town of Vienna</i>
Commissioner Paul C. Smedberg	<i>City of Alexandria</i>
Commissioner Linda Smyth	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Commissioner J. Walter Tejada	<i>County of Arlington</i>
Commissioner Bruce E. Tulloch	<i>County of Loudoun</i>
Commissioner Kristen C. Umstadd, NVRC Chairman	<i>Town of Leesburg</i>
Commissioner Lori Waters	<i>County of Loudoun</i>

STAFF PRESENT

G. Mark Gibb	<i>Executive Director</i>
Linda M. Tenney	<i>Deputy Director</i>
Linda Summerall	<i>Executive Secretary</i>
Kenneth Billingsley	<i>Director, Demographics</i>
Katherine Mull	<i>Senior Environmental Planner</i>
Doug Pickford	<i>Director, Environmental and Heritage Resources</i>
David Schwengel	<i>Regional Emergency Preparedness Planning Director</i>
Michelle Simmons	<i>Director, Human Services</i>
James Van Zee	<i>Director, Regional Planning Services</i>

GUESTS PRESENT

Brig. Gen. Clara L. Adams-Ender (Ret.)	<i>Member, Virginia Commission on Military Bases (VCOMB)</i>
Hon. Kristen J. Amundson	<i>Virginia House of Delegates, Dist. 44</i>
Nicole Billman	<i>Aide to Arlington Co. Board Member Barbara Favola</i>
H. Hollister Cantus	<i>Member, VCOMB</i>
Christine Cimko	<i>Member, VCOMB</i>
J. Corrigen	<i>Greenberg Troy</i>
Paul DesJardin	<i>Dir. of Planning, MWCOG</i>
Hon. Albert Eisenberg	<i>Virginia House of Delegates, Dist. 47</i>
Hon. George Foresman	<i>Assistant to the Governor for Commonwealth Preparedness</i>
J. T. Griffin	<i>Office of Rep. Frank Wolf</i>
Beth Miller Hauser	<i>PBS&J</i>
Melissa Koloszar	<i>Office of Rep. Jim Moran</i>
Chris Lopez	<i>Office of Rep. Tom Davis</i>
Jason Money	<i>Office of Sen. George Allen</i>
Hon. Linda T. "Toddy" Puller	<i>Virginia Senate, Dist. 36</i>
Elissa Silverman	<i>The Washington Post</i>
Diana Sun	<i>Dir., Communications & Public Affairs, Arlington County</i>

CALL TO ORDER Vice Chairman Favola 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.

MINUTES

Commissioner Pepper moved approval of the minutes of the April 28, 2005, meeting. The motion was seconded and carried, with Commissioner Polk abstaining.

BASE REALIGNMENT AND CLOSURE

Introductions of Commissioners and guests were made. Vice Chairman Favola turned the presentation over to Frank Shafroth, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs with Arlington County.

Frank Shafroth

Mr. Shafroth reported that Defense Secretary Rumsfeld released his BRAC recommendations on May 13. Those recommendations went to the 2005 Defense Base Closure and Realignment (BRAC) Commission, which will have a virtual tour of leased DoD office space in Arlington County on May 27.

Beginning June 7, the BRAC Commission will have 45 days of hearings around the country, concluding on July 15. The BRAC Commission is required to submit its recommendations to President Bush no later than September 8. The BRAC Commission can reject a base closure by super majority or make a change by majority. The President has until the latter part of September to either accept or reject the BRAC Commission's recommendations. If the President rejects the recommendations, it goes back to the BRAC Commission with presentation to the President in November; if the President accepts the BRAC Commission's report, that report becomes final within 45 days unless Congress rejects it. Congress must either accept or reject the report in whole; Congress cannot make changes.

During the hearing process, the opportunity for this part of the country to appear before the BRAC Commission will be on July 8 in Baltimore.

There will be eight criteria used in considering Secretary Rumsfeld's recommendations. The first four relate to military value. The other criteria are the extent and timing of potential costs, community impact, community infrastructure capacity to support, and environmental impact.

questions and answers

Responding to Commissioner Smedberg, Mr. Shafroth said the majority of leased DoD office space in Northern Virginia are GSA leases. Commissioner Smedberg then asked if consultants will move as well. Mr. Shafroth replied it depends on the nature of the facility/agency.

James Van Zee

Mr. Van Zee provided a brief overview of NVRC's work over the past year to produce a comprehensive inventory of military installations/leased facilities. The firm PBS&J was contracted to assist in the inventory. The inventory data will be used to address security concerns and design criteria.

*Chris Nunno
ITspatial, Inc.*

Mr. Nunno demonstrated the InterSCOPE technology used in addressing urban/suburban office building security concerns and design criteria. The technology is a real-time, interactive visualizing, planning tool.

discussion

Vice Chairman Favola commented that this tool needs to be incorporated into Northern Virginia's presentation to the BRAC Commission. Noting that urban areas can make buildings secure, she added that the region wants a performance based standard rather than a prescriptive based standard.

Mr. Foresman and members of the VCOMB Board and the Commissioners discussed potential strategies for working with the BRAC Commission, with several guests cautioning against revealing strategy in public sessions. Commissioner Connolly noted that BRAC impacts Northern Virginia and the jurisdictions need to act cooperatively.

Commissioner Tulloch moved that NVRC staff draft a letter to the BRAC Commission requesting a separate hearing in Northern Virginia. The motion was seconded. Mr. Fisette asked that the letter be sent to all Commissioners to share with their Boards and Councils, requesting that each jurisdiction send a similar request to the BRAC Commission. Further, the letter should reference Charleston, South Carolina, as the precedent for requesting the hearing. Commissioner Tulloch accepted the changes to his motion. The motion as amended carried unanimously.

On behalf of the Commission, Vice Chairman Favola thanked the guests and presenters for attending the meeting.

CONSENT
AGENDA

Commissioner Tulloch moved approval of the consent agenda. The motion was seconded. Commissioner Connolly requested that item B, Resolution No. P05-23: Annual General Adjustment for Commission Employees for FY 2006, be removed. Commissioner Tulloch moved approval of the consent agenda minus item B, consisting of the items below. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

- A. Financial Reports for April 2005
- C. Resolution No. P05-25: Authorization to Submit a Proposal Regarding Rain Gardens to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, Coastal Program
- D. Resolution No. P05-26: Authorization to Develop a Request for Proposals for Fair Housing Services

RESOLUTION
NO. P05-23

ANNUAL GENERAL ADJUSTMENT FOR COMMISSION EMPLOYEES FOR FY 2006

Commissioner Connolly commented that several member jurisdictions have done away with cost of living adjustments (COLAs), instead adjusting pay scales. He requested that this item be revisited. Mr. Gibb reported that Commissioner Gross has taken the lead on personnel items through the Operations Committee. Commissioner Connolly requested that this be looked at in the upcoming fiscal year. He then moved adoption of Resolution No. P05-23. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
REPORT

- A. Mr. Gibb reported that NVRC's office move is on schedule for August 1.
- B. Mr. Gibb called the members' attention to the letters before them from Senators Allen and Warner concerning CDBG funds.
- C. Copies of NVRC's latest brochure, "A Citizen's Guide to Tree Planting Projects In Northern Virginia" were distributed. Commissioner Connolly suggested that publications be dated, making it easier to identify the latest version.
- D. Mr. Gibb reported that the low impact development DVD has received rave reviews and NVRC has received many requests for it from all over the country.

- E. Resolution No. P05-27: SPONSORSHIP OF APPLICATIONS TO THE VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR TRANSPORTATION PLANNING GRANTS UNDER THE STATE TRANSPORTATION PLANNING GRANT PILOT PROGRAM

Mr. Gibb explained that the resolution, distributed at the meeting, authorizes him to accept the funding of the VDOT planning grants. Commissioner Tulloch moved adoption of Resolution No. P05-27. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

- F. Mr. Gibb reported that the Human Services Officials Committee received a draft 211 plan. That plan will be presented to the Chief Administrative Officers for their review and then to the Commission for adoption.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Vice Chairman Favola reported that the U.S. Department of Housing and Human Services' new interpretation of allowable Title IV-E funded services adversely affects the longstanding use of these funds among NVRC's member local governments. In Northern Virginia, local governments have successfully kept children out of the foster care system by purchasing community based prevention services with Title IV-E funds.

Vice Chairman Favola stated that she has received Congressman Moran's assurance that he will submit report language to be added to the Appropriations bill that HHS not prohibit purchasing community based prevention services with Title IV-E funds. She added that NACO has written a letter supporting this position and that NVRC should consider doing so.

Commissioner Connolly moved that NVRC send a letter to Congressman Moran supporting him on his position. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Commissioner Pepper reported that the Communications Committee met prior to the Commission meeting and were very impressed with the draft communications plan developed by Diana Sun, Arlington County's Director of Communications and Public Affairs.

Commissioner Pepper moved that the Commission: (1) adopt the communications plan in concept; (2) approve adding the tag line "The Voice of Northern Virginia" to follow the logo; (3) in order to realize the plan, a senior position of "information/communications director" needs to be created, funded (including money for resources) and hired; and (4) to consider holding an open house/ press conference in September to announce the Commission's reorganization and move and to place an announcement in *The Washington Post*.

Commissioner Smedberg added that the target audience will also include the Northern Virginia Congressional Delegation and the universities.

The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Commissioner Bulova, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, presented the committee's slate of officers, adding that it is nicely balanced with larger and smaller jurisdictions, inner and outer jurisdictions, and it is bipartisan:

Chairman	Barbara Favola	Arlington County
Vice Chairman	Gerald Connolly	Fairfax County
Treasurer	Hal Parrish	City of Manassas

- OTHER BUSINESS Commissioner Cross asked if the Commission was successful in receiving its funding for AIDS grants from the District of Columbia. Ms. Simmons, NVRC's Human Services Director, replied that progress is being made. NVRC staff met with DC HIV/AIDS

Administration staff after NVRC's letter to the Mayor was sent, but the situation remains much the same. Mr. Gibb added he believes the Commission's letter helped immensely, and NVRC is now able to continue using last year's funding while awaiting the current year's funding.

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business, Vice Chairman Favola adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

G. Mark Gibb
Executive Director

Approved by:

Barbara Favola
Vice Chairman