

NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, July 28, 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	County of Fairfax
Commissioner Gerald E. Connolly, NVRC Vice Chairman	County of Fairfax
Commissioner W. S. Covington, III	<i>County of Prince William</i>
Commissioner Joan Cross	City of Fairfax
Commissioner William T. Druhan, Jr.	<i>Town of Purcellville</i>
Commissioner Joan DuBois	County of Fairfax
Commissioner Barbara A. Favola, NVRC Chairman	<i>County of Arlington</i>
Hon. David Snyder for Commissioner Robin Gardner	City of Falls Church
Commissioner Penelope A. Gross	County of Fairfax
Commissioner Catherine Hudgins	County of Fairfax
Commissioner Elaine N. McConnell	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Commissioner Martin E. Nohe	County of Prince William
Commissioner Michael O'Reilly	Town of Herndon
Commissioner Harry J. Parrish, II, NVRC Treasurer	City of Manassas
Commissioner Bryan Polk	<i>City of Manassas Park</i>
Commissioner Redella S. Pepper	City of Alexandria
Commissioner M. Jane Seeman	Town of Vienna
Commissioner Paul C. Smedberg	City of Alexandria
Commissioner Linda Smyth	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Commissioner J. Walter Tejada	<i>County of Arlington</i>
Commissioner Bruce E. Tulloch	County of Loudoun
Commissioner Kristen C. Umstatt	<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>
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

Sue Rowland	<i>Principal, SR Consulting</i>
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CALL TO ORDER	Vice Chairman Connolly called the meeting to order at 8:10 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 Seeman moved approval of the minutes of the June 23, 2005, meeting. The motion was seconded and carried.

DISCUSSION OF
IMMIGRATION IN
NORTHERN
VIRGINIA

Kenneth Billingsley Mr. Billingsley, NVRC's Director of Demographics, distributed a package of statistical information and charts showing where immigrants live in Northern Virginia.

Michael O'Reilly Commissioner O'Reilly, Mayor of the Town of Herndon, discussed the town's proposed regulated hiring site for day laborers. The Town Council adopted the plan in 2003. Four months ago, Project Hope & Harmony submitted an application to operate to site, and Fairfax County has earmarked operational funds. Commissioner O'Reilly explained that regulated hiring site will prevent solicitation of day laborers at other locations.

Commissioner O'Reilly distributed copies of the ordinance and conditional use permit application. He noted that a conditional use permit requires the applicant to comply with all local, state and federal laws.

questions & answers Commissioner Connolly added that best practices on regulated day laborer hiring sites throughout the country were looked at in conjunction with Herndon's project. He stated that Commissioner O'Reilly has shown political courage and leadership throughout this process.

Commissioner Gross said the issue of the site location is the hardest part of this process. Fairfax County members discussed the day laborer situation in Annandale, noting that many of the day laborers are from other parts of the county and region.

Commissioner Hudgins stated the importance of remembering that this is a labor issue, not an immigration issue. Commissioner Connolly said local elected officials need to find a "win-win" solution without taking on federal immigration.

Loudoun County Board Chairman Scott York said the proposed location sits on the border with Loudoun County and asked if Loudoun County had approved an ordinance. Commissioner O'Reilly said he hopes to work with the county and will follow-up.

The members commended Commissioner O'Reilly for his political courage on this issue.

CONSENT
AGENDA

Mr. Gibb asked noted that staff prepared a revised resolution for substitute Title I vendors and would like to present that resolution separately.

Commissioner Tulloch moved approval of the revised consent agenda, consisting of Resolution No. P-06-03: Authorization to Purchase Goods and Services for the Second Phase of 2-1-1 Planning Activities. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
REPORT

- A. Mr. Gibb pointed out that a report on affordable housing in the Program Highlights includes a quote from Senator Mims mentioning affordable housing as an NVRC priority.
- B. Mr. Gibb reported that both Commissioners Umstattd and Tulloch attended Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions' (VAPDC) 2005 Summer Conference, and Commissioner Tulloch was elected as VAPDC's 1st Vice President.
- C. The Commission's September 22 meeting will be held in NVRC's new office at 3060 Williams Drive, Suite 510, Fairfax, Virginia 22031. The office phone numbers remain the same.

- D. Ms. Simmons, NVRC's Director of Human Services, reported that a number of groups are working to keep the Northern Virginia clinic of Whitman-Walker open; that site serves approximately 300 clients. Ms. Simmons introduced the local jurisdictional staff working on this issue.

Eight hundred thousand dollars are needed to keep the site open for 18 months. The state may donate some funds. The City of Alexandria and the counties of Arlington and Fairfax are proposing to contribute up to \$390,000, CareFirst health insurance plans to contribute \$100,000 and there are two Congressional earmarks for \$300,000 (one is from Rep. Moran). The proposal includes representation by the local Northern Virginia governments on Whitman-Walker's fiscal oversight committee. Ms. Simmons added that the AIDS organization from California is an unknown entity for this region.

Commissioner Smedberg said the local jurisdictional staff working on this issue have done a great job, and he favors the 18 month transitional operating option.

Members and staff confirmed for Commissioner Seeman that the Northern Virginia clinic is indeed operating in the black; the fiscal problems occurred in the D.C. and Maryland clinics. Commissioner Smedberg stated he believes that money can be raised to keep Northern Virginia open. Vice Chairman Connolly noted that much of Whitman-Walker Clinic's overall fundraising comes from people living in Northern Virginia, and the decision of which sites to close was made on the decision of geography. He added "If we as a region enter into a relationship with Whitman-Walker, they need to acknowledge their decision was made in haste." He stressed obtaining assurance that continuity will be there.

Commissioner O'Reilly moved adoption of Resolution No. P06-02 as revised by staff. The motion was seconded. Vice Chairman Connolly moved to amend, by adding "Be it further resolved, that nothing herein precludes a relationship with Whitman-Walker Clinic." The motion was 2nd and carried unanimously. Resolution No. P06-02 as amended was adopted.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Vice Chairman Connolly reported that the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority held its meeting immediately prior to the Commission meeting. The Authority was briefed on a public telephone survey for the 2030 transportation plan. The survey found broad support for public transit and that people are willing to pay for transit.

REPORT ON BRAC PROCESS

Mr. Gibb noted the tremendous regional cooperation on this issue.

Commissioner Pepper moved adoption of Resolution No. P06-01. The motion was seconded. Vice Chairman Connolly reported that Northern Virginia successfully secured a hearing encompassing the state of Virginia. Mr. Van Zee added that the BRAC Commission added Oceana Naval Air Station to the list. The resolution carried unanimously

OTHER BUSINESS

Vice Chairman Connolly reported a letter addressed to Chairman Favola from the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust was received, suggesting that NVRC and NVCT hold a joint "green" workshop. The Commissioners authorized staff to explore this subject.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Vice Chairman Connolly adjourned the meeting at 9:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

G. Mark Gibb
Executive Director

Approved by:

Gerald E. Connolly
Vice Chairman