

NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, March 28, 2019

COMMISSIONERS

(The names of those members present are highlighted.)

Hon. Elizabeth Bennett-Parker	<i>City of Alexandria</i>
Hon. Sharon Bulova	County of Fairfax
Hon. Kelly Burk	<i>Town of Leesburg</i>
Hon. Peter Candland	<i>County of Prince William</i>
Hon. John T. Chapman	City of Alexandria
Hon. John C. Cook, NVRC Treasurer	County of Fairfax
Hon. Matt de Ferranti	County of Arlington
Hon. Laurie A. Dirocco, NVRC Chairman	Town of Vienna
Hon. Ken Elston	<i>City of Manassas</i>
Hon. Libby Garvey	County of Arlington
Hon. Penelope A. Gross	County of Fairfax
Hon. Pat Herrity	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Geary Higgins	County of Loudoun
Hon. Catherine Hudgins	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Jeffrey C. McKay	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Lisa Merkel	<i>Town of Herndon</i>
Hon. David Meyer	City of Fairfax
Hon. Cydny A. Neville	<i>Town of Dumfries</i>
Hon. Martin E. Nohe	County of Prince William
Hon. Frank J. Principi	<i>County of Prince William</i>
Hon. Phyllis J. Randall	<i>County of Loudoun</i>
Hon. Jeanette Rishell	City of Manassas Park
Hon. Kathy L. Smith	County of Fairfax
Hon. David Tarter, NVRC Vice-Chairman	City of Falls Church

STAFF PRESENT

Robert Lazaro	<i>Executive Director</i>
Linda M. Tenney	<i>Deputy Director</i>
Gina Kesselmann-Smith	<i>Management Analyst</i>
Normand Goulet	<i>Director, Environmental Services</i>
Michelle Simmons	<i>Director, Human Services</i>
Peggy Tadej	<i>Director, Community and Military Partnerships</i>

OTHERS PRESENT

Tim Aiken	<i>Arlington County</i>
Gaston Araoz	<i>Office of Senator Kaine</i>
Michael Cannon	<i>Stafford County</i>
John Cavanaugh	<i>Consortium of Universities of the Washington Metro Area</i>
Kathy Corena	<i>Fairfax County</i>
Anoushka Deshmukh	<i>Fairfax County Public Schools</i>
Daniel Flores	<i>Greater Washington Bond of Trade</i>
Sarah Hayes	<i>Virginia Tech</i>
Steve Jordon	<i>NVTC</i>
Martha O'Keefe	<i>Germanna Community College</i>
Ksenia Lake	<i>Integrity Risk International</i>
Robert O'Quinn	<i>Fairfax City Neighborhood and Community Services</i>
Steve Partridge	<i>NoVA Community College</i>
Kevin Rennick	<i>USAG Fort Belvoir Garrison</i>
Sue Rowland	<i>Go Virginia</i>
Will Rowe	<i>Booz Allen Hamilton</i>
David Rudo	<i>Fairfax County Public Schools</i>
R. Tyler Schroder	<i>Fairfax County Public Schools</i>
Aimee Stoddard	<i>Blue Star Families</i>
Sindy Yeh	<i>Arlington County</i>
Kimberly Young	<i>University of Mary Washington</i>
Khalil Yazzi	<i>Crossroads Innovation Group</i>

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman DiRocco called the meeting to order at 7:32 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 AND PRESENTATIONS

Tech Talent Pipeline

Commissioners received a briefing updating the Commission on the Tech Talent Pipeline project from Steve Partridge, VP for Workforce & Economic Development, at the Northern Virginia Community College. The project is funded through Go Virginia and local government contributors.

ACTION ITEMS

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P19-20 – Authorization to receive funds from the Virginia Department of Health to Perform Various Technical Assistance Activities in Support of HIV/AIDS Care and Prevention. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Meyer and carried unanimously.

Background:

As a federal grantee VDH has prepared the required Integrated HIV Prevention and Care Plan for HIV which includes timed deliverables for reducing new infections, identifying newly-HIV positive individuals and getting them into treatment quickly, reducing health disparities, and moving more people with HIV to viral suppression – the point at which they can no longer transmit the virus to others. VDH senior staff has met with NVRC staff to discuss a continuing working relationship between our agencies that leverages NVRC staff's years of experience and expertise on Ryan White HIV/AIDS issues while also contributing to VDH's ability to meet various integrated plan deliverables. The types of tasks identified for NVRC staff to perform under contract to VDH are consistent with NVRCs' role and mission, including: training and technical assistance, research, program development, and neutral convener. VDH staff has received and approved a budget and work plan prepared by NVRC staff that articulates a variety of proposed projects and their estimated costs.

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P19-21 – Extension of Auditor Engagement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Meyer and carried unanimously.

Background:

Commission Resolution No. 17-20, provided that the engagement of Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates for auditing services may be extended annually for up to four years after initial engagement for the FY 2017 audit. Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates has provided a cost proposal for \$18,050, for the second optional year of extending the engagement – less than 2% above the price for the previous year (\$17,700 for FY 2018), and

less than 4% above the price for the initial engagement (\$17,375 for FY 2017). Robinson, Farmer, Cox Associates continues to meet qualifications for serving as the Commission's independent auditor. NVRC serves as the Support Organization for the Go Virginia Northern Virginia Council and will be required as such to provide an audit. NVRC is working with the Go Virginia Council to determine what services will be necessary. Any additional cost will be reimbursed by Go Virginia to NVRC.

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P19-22 – Resolution to Support Continued Full Funding of the Chesapeake Bay Program. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Meyer and carried unanimously.

Background:

The President's proposed budget contains a 90% reduction in funding for the Chesapeake Bay program. Reductions in critical funding for the CBP or other federal partners would risk slowing or reversing the progress that has been made by Northern Virginia jurisdictions and others to protect and restore the Chesapeake Bay Watershed. The resolution supports continued full funding for the Chesapeake Bay Program and the Executive Director is authorized to share the resolution with the Northern Virginia Congressional delegation.

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P19-23 – Authorization to Sign Contract with Virginia Department of Environmental Quality to Assist in the Development of the Chesapeake Bay Phase III WIP. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garvey and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P19-24 – Merit Salary Adjustment for Executive Director. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garvey and carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
REPORT

Mr. Lazaro presented his report to the Commission, which included the financial report for February 2019 and the following:

- Rain Garden Workshop
 - NVRC held a free workshop with our partners from Arlington, Alexandria, Falls Church and the NoVA Soil and Water Conservation District regarding rain gardens. It was a sold-out event.
- LEED Certified Building Dashboard
 - We put together an interactive dashboard of the more than 131 million square feet of LEED certified publicly listed buildings in VA. Programs like PACE are an important alternative financing tool to allow buildings owners to consider LEED certification as part of their renovations.
- Working with the VA Department of Health
 - In partnership with the Virginia Department of Health, NVRC hosted two REVIVE! Opioid Overdose Reversal and

Naloxone Education sessions on March 20th with 29 attending including 5 members of NVRC's Human Services Division.

- Talking Solar with Students
 - NVRC Executive Director was invited to speak to the Third-Grade class at Hamilton ES in Loudoun about solar energy. The students are interested in having the school system put solar on their school building.
 - The students have undertaken extensive research on renewable energy and asked great questions.
 - Our Spring Solarize campaign kicks off on April 16 and this year also include electric vehicle chargers.
- Shape of the Region Conference
 - NVRC was pleased to co-host the Shape of the Region Conference. Chairman DiRocco and Commissioners McKay and Chapman also attended. The conference centered around the issue of economic mobility.
- Coastal PDCs Working Together
 - NVRC staff along with several of the Coastal PDCs met with the Governor's Special Assistant for Coastal Adaptation and Protection, Rear Admiral Ann C. Phillips (Ret.). The group met to discuss several items included requested input from Rear Admiral Phillips on a proposed Virginia Coastal Resilience Master Plan.
- Training the Trainer
 - NVRC was pleased to host 29 attendees including staff from the Washington Area Bicyclist Association, George Mason University, Alexandria, Fairfax County, Fairfax City and citizens from Prince William, Manassas and Fairfax County paving the way to greater safety outreach capacity in high crash areas of the region. Other events in the process are two evenings on pedestrian safety training and going through an intensive three-day training to become licensed safety instructors. In exchange, each will provide safety outreach and education throughout northern Virginia.
- Resiliency Planning Workshop
 - NVRC held a well-attended resiliency workshop on the impact of climate stressors on critical infrastructure. A number of local government partners and NGOs attended. BoozAllen provided the GIS and subject matter experts to help lead the discussion.

- Solarize NoVA Kicks Off Mid-April
 - NVRC was pleased to host Jessica from Fairfax County who was filming an information segment for Fairfax County Channel 16 on the Spring Solarize NoVA campaign which this year features Electric Vehicle charging stations as an option. Details at www.solarizenova.org.
- Plant NoVA Natives Program Recognized
 - Congratulations to NVRC's Corey Miles and the many dozens of volunteers from our Plant NoVA Natives program on receiving the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District's **Diane Hoffman 2018 Cooperators of the Year Award**.
 - This program started as a grant from NOAA through the Virginia Coastal Zone Management Program. While the grant has expired the program has thrived under the care of dozens of citizen volunteers who are dedicated to protecting Northern Virginia native plants
 - *"There is no doubt that this campaign has contributed significantly to bringing groups together and elevating the shared interest in the use of native plants across many landscapes."* Laura Grape – Executive Director
- Upcoming Meetings
 - **April**
 - 50th Anniversary Recognition
 - **May**
 - Watershed Implementation Plan III Update
 - Recycling/Solid Waste Update
 - **June**
 - Eileen Ellsworth - Philanthropy in the Region
 - **July**
 - Economic Development Roundtable

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman DiRocco informed the Commissioners that the annual review of Mr. Lazaro took place at the Executive Committee meeting prior to the main Commission meeting on March 28, 2019. The result of such review can be found in Resolution P19-24.

GO VIRGINIA REPORT

Sue Rowland reported that the Go Virginia projects are slowly picking up.

MINUTES

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Commission meeting minutes of February 28, 2019. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Smith and carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Commissioner Garvey briefed the Commissioners on what was discussed at the Community and Military Partnership meeting on March 21, 2019.

Commissioner Garvey also invited Commissioners to attend the next Community and Military Partnership meeting on May 16, 2019 from 10 am to Noon at the NVRC office location.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman DiRocco adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.
Executive Director

Approved by:

Laurie A. DiRocco
Chairman