

NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, February 27, 2014

COMMISSIONERS

(The names of those members present are highlighted.)

Hon. Nader Baroukh
Hon. Sharon Bulova
Hon. Peter Candland
Hon. Janet Clarke
Hon. John C. Cook
Hon. Jay Fisette
Hon. Gerald M. Foreman II
Hon. Libby Garvey
Hon. Penelope A. Gross, NVRC Vice Chairman
Hon. Pat Herrity
Hon. Catherine Hudgins
Hon. Frank Jones
Hon. Robert W. Lazaro, Jr., NVRC Chairman
Hon. Fernando "Marty" Martinez
Hon. Jeffrey C. McKay
Hon. Lisa C. Merkel
Hon. Martin E. Nohe
Hon. Harry J. Parrish II
Hon. Redella S. Pepper, NVRC Treasurer
Hon. Frank J. Principi
Hon. Laurie DiRocco for M. Jane Seeman
Hon. R. Scott Silverthorne
Hon. Paul C. Smedberg
Hon. Linda Smyth
Hon. Scott K. York

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

STAFF PRESENT

G. Mark Gibb *Executive Director*
Linda M. Tenney *Deputy Director*
Ken Billingsley *Director, Demographics & Information Services*
Normand Goulet *Sr. Environmental Planner*
David Schwengel *Director, Regional Business Planning*
Michelle Simmons *Director, Human Services*
Debbie Spiliotopoulos *Solid Waste Planner*
Peggy Tadej *No. Va. Regional BRAC Coordinator*
Stephen Walz *Director, Regional Energy Planning*
Aimee Vosper *Director, Planning and Environmental Services*

OTHERS PRESENT

Bruce Bennett *Hunter Mill Traffic Calming Committee*
Serdor Tonbul *American Turkish Friendship Association*
Mahmut Yeter *Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Federation of Turkic American Associations*
Shafi Khan *United Muslim Relief*
Osman Dulgeroglu *CEO, Embrace Relief*
Nur S. Kalyouncu *Kimse Yok Mu*
Sandy Chisholm *Fairfax Co. Community Interfaith Coordination*
Abed Ayoub *United Muslim Relief*
Mustafa Akpinar *Principal, Pinnacle Academy and ATFA Board member*
Scott Wheatley *Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints (LOS)*
Gordon Dorsey *Maersk Line*
Bill Paxton *COO, Paxton Van Lines*
Cate Magennis Wyatt *President and Founder, The Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership*

- CALL TO ORDER Chairman Lazaro called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE The Pledge of Allegiance was recited by all present.
A moment of silence was observed in memory of Commissioner Seeman.
- ROLL CALL The roll was called and all members present or absent were noted for the record.
- MINUTES Commissioner York moved approval of the minutes of the Commission meetings of January 23 and February 6, 2014. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.
- RECAP AND RECOGNITION – SYRIAN REFUGEE RELIEF PROJECT IN TURKEY Chairman Lazaro narrated a brief slide show of the Syrian refugee camp in Adana, Turkey, that he and a Northern Virginia delegation visited twice. There are 22 refugee camps in Turkey holding approximately 200,000 people.
The refugee camp in Adana holds approximately 12,000 people, 7,000 of which are children. Last year, 617 children were born in that camp. The children are being taught by teachers, who are also refugees.
Upon learning that the refugees needed blankets and flour the delegation decided to collect blankets upon returning to Northern Virginia. Almost 18,000 blankets were collected and Paxton Van Lines donated transportation to the Port of Virginia where Maersk shipping line loaded them into containers and shipped them free of charge to Turkey for distribution.
Chairman Lazaro introduced the representatives of the various organizations involved with this effort. He particularly thanked Paxton Van Lines and Maersk for their very generous participation in this effort. Also recognized were the Fairfax County Supervisors, the county's Department of Neighborhood Services, and the interfaith organizations that were also involved.
Certificates of Appreciation were presented to:
Osman Dulgeroglu (CEO, Embrace Relief)
Metin Cetiner (Vice President, Kimse Yok Mu)
Mustafa Akpinar (Principal, Pinnacle Academy; Board Member of ATFA)
Mahmut Yeter (Exec. Director, Mid-Atlantic Federation of Turkic American Associations)
Bill Paxton (COO, Paxton Companies)
Gordon Dorsey (Maesrk)
- THE JOURNEY THROUGH HALLOWED GROUND PARTNERSHIP Commissioner York introduced Cate Magennis Wyatt, President and Founder of The Journey Through Hallowed Ground Partnership, a four-state partnership dedicated to preserving the national, cultural and historic resources within a 180-mile corridor from Gettysburg to Monticello. Ms. Wyatt previously served as Virginia's Secretary of Commerce and Trade, and worked in the private sector specializing in developing strategic plans for troubled investments followed by directing the successful implementation of those strategies, as well as serving on several boards.
- Cate Magennis Wyatt* Ms. Wyatt began with a brief audio-visual presentation. The Journey includes sites from Native Americans, the French and Indian and the Civil Wars, World Wars I and II, and the struggle for civil rights. The scenic region can be explored by car, on foot and horseback, by canoe and kayak. The area encompasses thousands of historical sites, including nine presidential homes and sites, 18 national and state parks, 21 historic homes, 57 historic towns and villages, and hundreds of Civil War battlefields. The Journey is marketed to international visitors flying into Dulles Airport as a chance to explore 400 years of history on one tank of gas.
The Partnership also offers educational opportunities. "Of The Student, By The Student,

For The Student” learning service projects offers middle school students a full immersion in American history and heritage. Onsite at The Journey Through Hallowed Ground National Heritage Area, students bring the stories of those who came before them to life in videos that they write, produce, shoot, and edit themselves. The resulting mini-movies, or “Vodcasts,” become part of the official interpretive materials at partnering National Parks. Middle school students can also participate in “Extreme Journey Camps” wherein they use cutting edge technology to answer the question “what does leadership mean to you?” The Partnership also offers teacher development opportunities and courses.

questions & answers Commissioner York commented that the Commission’s partners in Germany are fascinated by the Civil War. Ms. Wyatt replied The Partnership has a sister heritage area in Germany. The Partnership received grant funding and now distributes its tourist materials in Germany. She added that the Australians are also very interested in America’s Civil War history.

CONSENT AGENDA Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Consent Agenda, consisting of the items outlined below. The motion was seconded and carried with Commissioner Garvey abstaining.

- A. Financial Reports for December 2013
- B. Resolution No. P14-23: Authorization to Submit Proposal to Arlington County for District Energy Services
- C. Resolution No. P14-24: Letter of Agreement for Clean Water Partner Advertising Services

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR’S
REPORT

Printed copies of the report were distributed:

- Workforce Task Force
- No. Va. Regional Community, Military and Federal Facilities Alliance
- Ryan White/ Affordable Care Act
- International Learning
- Energy Programs
- VAPDC Winter Meeting

Mr. Gibb announced that Steve Walz leaves NVRC at the end of the month. Mr. Walz discussed the success of NVRC’s regional energy program and the information learned from international trips and conferences.

CHAIRMAN’S
REPORT

Commissioner Lazaro reported he has announced he is not running for re-election as Mayor of Purcellville, so his term as NVRC Chairman will end in June. He views the Commission as a great classroom, learning from outstanding public officials.

OPERATIONS
COMMITTEE
REPORT

Staff distributed copies of Resolution No. P14-22: Authorization to Create a Nonprofit Organization for NVRC. Commissioner Pepper noted this resolution had been referred back to the Operations Committee, which met immediately before tonight’s Commission meeting. An affiliated nonprofit organization could receive donations and apply for grants for which NVRC is not eligible.

The Operations Committee has worked on this issue for nearly two years, including drafting bylaws. Commissioner Pepper reviewed the steps to create such an organization.

Commissioner Pepper moved adoption of Resolution No. P14-22 and the motion was seconded. Commissioner Smedberg asked if an attorney approved the plan. Commissioner Pepper confirmed that, noting the Commission has received periodic briefings on this issue. Mr. Gibb added that NVRC will initially staff the nonprofit.

The motion carried unanimously.

LEGISLATIVE
REPORT

Mr. Gibb reported that the Senate did not recommend any increased funding for the planning district commissions. The House added \$70,000 that would have replaced the cut in the Governor's budget. Mr. Gibb said there may be opportunities to increase funding rather than just restore the \$70,000. He asked the Commissioners to contact Senators Colgan and Howell on this.

ADJOURNMENT Chairman Lazaro adjourned the meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved by:

G. Mark Gibb
Executive Director

Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.
Chairman