

**NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION**

**Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, January 26, 2017**

**COMMISSIONERS**

(The names of those members present are highlighted.)

**Hon. Marc T. Aveni**  
**Hon. Willie F. Bailey**  
**Hon. Sharon Bulova**  
**Hon. Kelly Burk**  
Hon. Peter Candland  
**Hon. John C. Cook, NVRC Treasurer**  
**Hon. Laurie A. Dirocco, NVRC Chairman**  
Hon. Gerald M. Foreman II  
Hon. Kwasi Fraser, alt. **Hon. Doug McCollum**  
**Hon. Libby Garvey**  
**Hon. Penelope A. Gross**  
**Hon. Pat Herrity**  
Hon. Geary Higgins  
Hon. Catherine Hudgins  
Hon. Jeffrey C. McKay  
**Hon. Lisa C. Merkel**  
Hon. David Meyer  
**Hon. Martin E. Nohe**  
**Hon. Redella S. Pepper**  
Hon. Frank J. Principi  
**Hon. Phyllis J. Randall**  
**Hon. Jeanette Rishell**  
**Hon. Kathy L. Smith**  
Hon. David Tarter  
Hon. John Vihstadt

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

**STAFF PRESENT**

Robert Lazaro  
Linda M. Tenney  
Gina Kesselmann-Smith  
Michelle Simmons  
Peggy Tadej

*Acting Executive Director*  
*Deputy Director*  
*Executive Assistant*  
*Director, Human Services*  
*No. Va. Regional BRAC Coordinator*

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Ken Billingsley  
Louise Billingsley  
Aaron Cohen  
Max Gruenig  
Steve Walz

*Former NVRC staff*  
*Citizen*  
*Audi*  
*Ecologic Institute*  
*MWCOG*

**CALL TO ORDER** Chairman DiRocco called the meeting to order at 7:35 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.

**INTRODUCTION OF NEW COMMISSIONERS** Chairman DiRocco introduced new Commissioners:  
Commissioner Aveni – City of Manassas  
Commissioner Burk –Town of Leesburg  
Commissioner Higgins – Loudoun County  
Commissioner Rishell – City of Manassas Park

**MINUTES** Commissioner Bulova moved approval of the Commission meeting minutes of December 08, 2016. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garvey and carried unanimously.  
  
Commissioner Herrity, Commissioner Aveni, Commissioner Burk and Commissioner Rishell abstained, as they had not attended the last Commission meeting.

**PRESENTATION** Chairman DiRocco welcomed and introduced Aaron Cohen, Director of the Electric Vehicle Strategy on the Audi One team at Audi of America.  
  
Mr. Cohen spoke about the progress and opportunities in the U.S. Electric Vehicle Market. He spent a lot of time during his career looking at trends, changes in customer values, attitudes, lifestyles vehicle preferences, the things that really drive consumers to chose one vehicle over another. His main focus now is on electric cars. Audi's prediction is that by 2025 25% of Audi vehicles will be electric. It is a 50 state strategy and it will take a lot of education and awareness building, because the market is very challenging.

**ACTION ITEMS** Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Resolution No. P17-11: Resolution honoring Kenneth Billingsley. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bulova and carried unanimously.

**ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT** Mr. Lazaro presented his report to the Commission, which included the financial report for December 2016 and the following:

- Virginia Treasures
- Solarize NoVA
- Electric Vehicle Infrastructure
- Emerald Ash Borer Seminar
- Affordable Care Act Update

**CHAIRMAN'S REPORT** Chairman DiRocco reminded the Commission of the upcoming Commission Retreat, that is going to take place February 4<sup>th</sup> at the Fairfax County Government Center, and she also brought to the Commission's attention, that there has been a schedule change. The December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017 meeting will be held November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017, due to a scheduling conflict.  
  
Chairman DiRocco then updated the Commission on how the Executive Director search is going. Over 130 resumes were received and 4 or 5 will be interviewed in February.

**COMMUNITY&MILITARY PARTNERSHIP** Commissioner Gross is now the chair of the Community and Military Partnership Committee. She reported that the committee met on January 12, 2017 and focused a

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lot on providing economic growth for Northern Virginia while assisting transitioning service members. There are about 20,000 veterans in Northern Virginia who have been helped through a variety of programs so far.

Commissioner Gross announced that the next Community & Military Partnership Meeting is going to take place March 9th at 10 a.m. at the NVRC office.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman DiRocco adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.  
Acting Executive Director

Approved by:

Laurie A. DiRocco  
Chairman