

NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, October 26, 2017

COMMISSIONERS

(The names of those members present are highlighted.)

Hon. Marc T. Aveni	<i>City of Manassas</i>
Hon. Willie F. Bailey	<i>City of Alexandria</i>
Hon. Sharon Bulova	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Kelly Burk	<i>Town of Leesburg</i>
Hon. Peter Candland	<i>County of Prince William</i>
Hon. John C. Cook, NVRC Treasurer	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Laurie A. Dirocco, NVRC Chairman	<i>Town of Vienna</i>
Hon. Gerald M. Foreman II	<i>Town of Dumfries</i>
Hon. Libby Garvey	<i>County of Arlington</i>
Hon. Penelope A. Gross	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Pat Herrity	<i>County of Loudoun</i>
Hon. Geary Higgins	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Catherine Hudgins	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Jeffrey C. McKay	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. David Meyer	<i>City of Fairfax</i>
Hon. Martin E. Nohe	<i>County of Prince William</i>
Hon. Sheila Olem	<i>Town of Herndon</i>
Hon. Redella S. Pepper	<i>City of Alexandria</i>
Hon. Frank J. Principi	<i>County of Prince William</i>
Hon. Phyllis J. Randall	<i>County of Loudoun</i>
Hon. Jeanette Rishell	<i>City of Manassas Park</i>
Hon. Kathy L. Smith	<i>County of Fairfax</i>
Hon. David Tarter, NVRC Vice-Chairman	<i>City of Falls Church</i>
Hon. John Vihstadt	<i>County of Arlington</i>

STAFF PRESENT

Robert Lazaro	<i>Executive Director</i>
Linda M. Tenney	<i>Deputy Director</i>
Gina Kesselmann-Smith	<i>Executive Assistant</i>
Michelle Simmons	<i>Director, Human Services</i>
Peggy Tadej	<i>Director, Military Affairs</i>

OTHERS PRESENT

Meagan Landis	<i>Staff of Supervisor Frank Principi</i>
Michael Moran	<i>Robinson, Farmer</i>
Tim Payne	<i>Nelson/Nygaard Consulting Associates</i>
Ellen Volo	<i>Fairfax County Government Relations</i>

CALL TO ORDER Chairman DiRocco called the meeting to order at 7:37 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

Audit Report

The Commission received a report from Michael Moran, one of the Robinson, Farmer auditors, on the results of their audit of Fiscal Year 17 financials (clean opinion).

Ferry Update

The Commission received a presentation from Tim Payne of Nelson/Nygaard as to the status of the Infrastructure Gap study. The study is due to be completed by the end of December 2017 as per NVRC's agreement with the Maritime Administration.

The presentation was emailed to all Commissioners.

Commissioner Gross asked if there are talks about car ferries. Mr. Payne said that at the moment there is no such discussion.

Mr. Vihstadt asked if it is possible to consider the west side of the Potomac river. Mr. Payne pointed out that when the market assessment was done, it was focused more on the near end stops. From the market standpoint, there is adequate market today that if there were suitable ferry terminals built on the west side, commercial operations would be able to be supported. But there are a lot of unresolved issues for example with DCA (Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport), that need to be resolved first on that side of the river. The market is there, but whether it is physically/fiscally/desirably to develop, that remains to be seen. Commissioner Garvey added that Arlington County would like to be looked at as a possible ferry stop.

Mr. Lazaro pointed out that the City of Alexandria is not being looked at by this study, to accommodate the City's request.

Commissioner Garvey asked about the pricing for this ferry. Mr. Payne said that this is still to be determined.

Commissioner Olem asked where the closest ferry service is on the East Coast, which is in New York City.

Affordable Care Act Outreach to Ryan White HIV/AIDS Patients

The Commission received a report from NVRC's Michelle Simmons with respect to outreach efforts to ensure Ryan White clients receive information and enroll for the Affordable Care Act. Nearly 1,000 of our clients receive health insurance through the Affordable Care Act.

The presentation was emailed to all Commissioners.

ACTION ITEMS Commissioner Bulova moved approval of the Resolution No. P18-12 – Authorizing the Commission to accept the findings of the audit as presented by Robinson, Farmer of Fiscal Year 2017 financials. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Garvey and a friendly amendment was added by Commissioner Cook, i.e. to implement the

auditors' recommendations in the management letter. After a short discussion the motion was carried unanimously.

Commissioner Bulova moved approval of the Resolution No. P18-13 – Approving the Preliminary Budget for FY 19. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Olem and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Bulova pointed out the Commission's priority of filling the demographer's position, once the budget allows it.

Background: Staff is requesting approval of the Preliminary Budget for FY 19. There is no projected increase in the per capita dues assessment for the new fiscal year. Local government partners utilize the preliminary budget as their guidance to establish their budgets for the new fiscal year.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Consent Agenda, consisting of the items outlined below. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pepper and carried unanimously.

- **Resolution No. P18-14:** Authorization to lease Photo Copier
- **Resolution No. P18-15:** Authorization to sign a Voice and Internet Contract

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Lazaro presented his report to the Commission, which included the financial report for September 2017 and the following:

- Plant NoVA Natives
 - Corey Miles of NVRC's staff appeared on Delegate Plum's cable program about our Plant NoVA Natives campaign. Corey was joined by Virginia Witmer of the State's Coastal Zone Management Program.
- We Love Our Volunteers
 - Plant NoVA Native Plant volunteers at the annual Clifton Day event. While grant funding for the program ends December 31 we are fortunate to have a cadre of informed and enthusiastic volunteers who share information, attend community events, etc. This will continue past the end of the calendar year.
- International Partnerships
 - NVRC was pleased to participate in a luncheon discussion with officials from the think tank supported by the CDU (Chancellor Merkel's Party) on the forming of a new government in Germany and the impacts on German policy, trade etc. with the US.
 - NVRC was pleased to host a delegation of sustainability and resilience experts from Germany along with representatives of GMU and the German Embassy in Washington.
- SolSmart Seminar
 - NVRC was pleased to host a seminar with our SolSmart advisor on best practices for solar permitting and inspection. Several of our local permitting jurisdictions attended the event.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT Chairman DiRocco reported that Mr. Lazaro's 6-month-evaluation took place at the Executive Committee meeting prior to the main Commission meeting. It was determined that NVRC is moving in the right direction.

Chairman DiRocco also brought up that at the same Executive Committee meeting the requirement to advertise for the position of the Director, Division of Planning and Environmental Services was waived, as there is someone on staff, who has been the acting director of this division for a number of years.

MINUTES Commissioner Gross moved approval of the Commission meeting minutes of September 28, 2017. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rishell and carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS Commissioner Gross invited the Commissioners to join the next Community & Military Meeting on November 9, 2017 at the NVRC office location at 10 am and added that due to a scheduling conflict she won't be able to chair this meeting. So if there is a Commissioner who can step in, to please email either Ms. Tadej (NVRC staff) or Mr. Lazaro.

Chairman DiRocco brought up that at the Commission meeting on November 30, 2017, a representative from Dominion Energy (Chief Legal Council and Executive Vice President) will be attending and the issues that were brought up, e.g. LED lighting, will be discussed at that meeting.

Commissioner Vihstadt and Commissioner Gross added that it would be good to host utility companies at one of the NVRC's meetings, as there seem to be communication issues (e.g. upgrading gas lines right after roads get paved). The coordination with utility companies is problematic.

ADJOURNMENT Chairman DiRocco adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.
Executive Director

Approved by:

Laurie A. DiRocco
Chairman