

NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, January 26, 2006

COMMISSIONERS

(The names of those present are highlighted)

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| Commissioner Hilda M. Barg Commissioner Melvin Bray | County of Prince William <i>Town of Dumfries</i> |
| Commissioner Sharon Bulova | County of Fairfax |
| Commissioner Gerald E. Connolly, NVRC Vice Chairman Commissioner W. S. Covington, III | County of Fairfax <i>County of Prince William</i> |
| Commissioner Joan Cross | City of Fairfax |
| Commissioner William T. Druhan, Jr. | Town of Purcellville |
| Commissioner Joan DuBois | County of Fairfax |
| Commissioner Barbara A. Favola, NVRC Chairman | County of Arlington |
| Commissioner Robin Gardner | City of Falls Church |
| Commissioner Penelope A. Gross Commissioner Catherine Hudgins | County of Fairfax <i>County of Fairfax</i> |
| Commissioner Elaine N. McConnell | County of Fairfax |
| Commissioner Martin E. Nohe | County of Prince William |
| Commissioner Michael O'Reilly | Town of Herndon |
| Commissioner Harry J. Parrish, II, NVRC Treasurer Commissioner Bryan Polk | City of Manassas <i>City of Manassas Park</i> |
| Commissioner Redella S. Pepper | <i>City of Alexandria</i> |
| Commissioner M. Jane Seeman | Town of Vienna |
| Commissioner Paul C. Smedberg | City of Alexandria |
| Commissioner Linda Smyth | County of Fairfax |
| Commissioner Stephen Snow Commissioner J. Walter Tejada | County of Loudoun <i>County of Arlington</i> |
| Commissioner Bruce E. Tulloch | <i>County of Loudoun</i> |
| Commissioner Kristen C. Umstatt | <i>Town of Leesburg</i> |

STAFF PRESENT

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| 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> |
| Barbara Gordon | <i>Communications Director</i> |
| Normand Goulet | <i>Sr. Environmental Planner/ Info. Technology Manager</i> |
| Doug Pickford | <i>Director, Environmental and Heritage Resources</i> |
| Tylee Smith | <i>Information & Referral Program Manager</i> |
| James Van Zee | <i>Director, Regional Planning Services</i> |

CALL TO ORDER Chairman Favola called the meeting to order at 7:34 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 Nohe moved approval of the minutes of the December 8, 2005, meeting. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Chairman Favola welcomed Stephen Snow, who is replacing Lori Waters on the Commission. Commissioner Snow last served on the Commission in 2004.

211: UNIVERSAL
HUMAN SERVICES
INFORMATION &
REFERRAL

Mr. Gibb introduced Tylee Smith, NVRC's Information & Referral Program Manager. Ms. Smith is the person responsible for the *Quick Guide* as well as other human services products.

Tylee Smith

Ms. Smith noted it was two years ago when she first informed the Commission about 211, a universal phone number for human services information and referral. In most states, 211 is built on the existing Information & Referral (I&R) network. The District of Columbia has had 211 since October 2004.

On February 10, 2006, 211 will be activated statewide in Virginia with the exception of Northern Virginia. Northern Virginia is still in the planning process to identify a regional I&R center; NVRC has received \$12,000 in planning funds. Additionally, Northern Virginia would want to coordinate with the District and suburban Maryland by using common operating procedures.

There is a \$1.7 million budget amendment for 211 before the General Assembly. Northern Virginia is asking for additional funding. Ms. Smith directed the Commissioners' to the chart titled "Northern Virginia I&R: Snapshot as of January 1, 2006," which shows the Northern Virginia regional investment is over \$1,000,000. She also pointed out a January 26, 2006, memorandum from the Northern Virginia Human Service Officials (HSOs) to the Northern Virginia Chief Administrative Officers, wherein the HSOs recommend the decision on delivery of 211 services should only be made after the funding issues are resolved.

The question before the Commission is whether NVRC and the localities should pursue a role in 211 or leave it up to the state.

*questions and
answers*

Commissioner Connolly moved that the Commission go on record as supporting 211 but only if state funding for this project is provided.

Commissioner Nohe expressed concern that when 211 is publicized, the call volume will increase, putting additional demand on the staff and on resources. Ms. Smith said other parts of Virginia have seen an increase in demand on ecumenical agencies for food and emergency rent assistance.

The Commissioners agreed that Sen. Houck, the patron of the budget amendment, should be made aware of the necessity for adequate monetary commitment from the state.

CONSENT AGENDA Commissioner Connolly moved approval of the Consent Agenda, consisting of the items outlined below. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

- A. October, November and December 2005 Financial Reports
- B. Resolution No. P06-12: FY 2005 Audited Statements

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
REPORT

- A. Mr. Gibb reported on the Patriot Challenge 2 emergency response training exercise, highlighted in the monthly *Program Highlights*. NVRC staff has been responsible for providing support and participation for this project.
- B. Mr. Gibb called attention to Resolution No. P06-13, distributed by staff. The federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Prevention (OJJDP) is awarding NVRC \$28,828 to conduct the first phase of the Northern Virginia Regional Gang Assessment. This will be the first project

nationally that will attempt to apply the OJJDP Comprehensive Gang Assessment Model in a multi-jurisdictional setting.

Commissioner Gross moved adoption of Resolution No. P06-13 and the motion was seconded.

Ken Billingsley, NVRC's Director of Demographics, explained that phase one is an exploratory stage of data collection. When the data has been analyzed staff will know what can be produced. The data will come from both the police departments and the public schools systems. The second phase will include data from the service providers and courts.

Commissioners expressed concern over duplicating services, generating another report that may not be acted upon and the sensitivity of the data. Mr. Gibb advised the members that staff have been working with the jurisdictions' gang coordinators on this project. Commissioner Gross stated that information sharing on this problem has been problematic and she favors the OJJDP grant. Commissioner Smedberg concurred with that assessment.

Resolution No. P06-13 was unanimously adopted.

- C. Mr. Gibb advised the members that the Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions (VAPDC) holds its winter meeting in Richmond on January 30 and 31. Governor Kaine will be the keynote speaker with several members of his cabinet also speaking.
- D. Mr. Gibb distributed the chart of Local and State Funding Contribution to NVRC 1978 to 2006, which he had earlier emailed to the members. There has been a steady decrease in state funding for several years.
- E. NVRC staff will meet with Ft. Belvoir officials on February 7 to discuss a charrette. Commissioner McConnell reported her understanding that the federal government has taken over the Ft. Belvoir planning from the Army, and a Fairfax County task force is holding meetings on this issue.
- F. Mr. Gibb said he would like to sign a letter of intent with the landlord for the additional office space. Commissioner Cross moved approval and the motion was seconded.
- G. NVRC has been informed that VDH does not have the \$200,000 to contribute to operation of Whitman-Walker Clinic of Northern Virginia because it is not in the Governor's budget. Commissioner Connolly said the solution is to have a member of the General Assembly offer a budget amendment. Commissioners Parrish, Smedberg and DuBois offered to speak to Senator Colgan and Delegate Callahan.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Resolution No. P16-14 was distributed. The Hearing Examiner of the State Corporation Commission has ruled that the W&OD corridor must be considered as an alternative for Virginia Dominion Power's new transmission line between the Pleasant View Substation near Leesburg and the Town of Purcellville. The Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority requests that NVRC once again go on record opposing this siting.

Commissioner Smyth moved that Resolution No. P14-06 be amended to say that "many governing bodies comprising Northern Virginia have passed resolutions opposing the construction of the transmission line within the W&OD Trail corridor" and moved adoption. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously. The members agreed a letter stating the Commission's opposition should be sent to the SCC as well as to the Governor.

LEGISLATIVE

REPORT

Commissioner Connolly noted the Governor's support for TDRs and transportation investment. He reported that Photo Red has been re-introduced. To date, there is no legislation on psychiatric beds. Telecom legislation has passed out of committee; it would abolish the local jurisdictional tax and replace that with a flat tax.

Members discussed the bills to increase the minimum wage but agreed they did not have enough background information to decisively support this position.

The Commission will convene in a short business meeting at 4:00 p.m. on February 7 in room 4 West of the General Assembly Building.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Commissioner Parrish reported that the Operations Committee held its first meeting of the fiscal year last week. Commissioner Gross will lead the Executive Director's annual review and contract renewal process. The committee is working on Bylaws amendments, including weighted voting, that will be brought before the Commission.

B. Commissioner Smedberg pointed out NVRC's monthly "News Tips," which is distributed to the media.

NVRC will hold a press conference February 9 in Richmond. Chairman Favola encouraged the members to visit the General Assembly in conjunction with VML/VACo Day and to attend the Commission meeting that afternoon. Commissioner Gross suggested that all local elected officials encourage their constituents and civic groups to contact their General Assembly members with concerns; the state elected officials need to hear from them.

OTHER BUSINESS

A. Commissioner Snow raised the possibility of teleconferencing with elected officials, state staff and others in Richmond during Commission meetings.

B. Commissioner Gardner requested that the Boundary Stones be on the March meeting agenda.

C. Commissioner Bulova pointed out that the Potomac Conference meets late afternoon of February 23 through the 24th, and that several Commissioners will attend, conflicting with the Commission's regular meeting. Chairman Favola agreed the Commission may cancel its February 23 meeting if there is no pressing business.

D. Staff distributed the booklet "The Sad Little Motor Coach," created by the Northern Virginia Visitors Consortium to promote Northern Virginia's numerous tourist sites. The booklet will be distributed to Northern Virginia hotels to place in every guest room.

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business, Chairman Favola adjourned the meeting at 9:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

G. Mark Gibb
Executive Director

Approved by:

Barbara A. Favola
Chairman