

NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, September 28, 2006

COMMISSIONERS

(The names of those present are highlighted)

Commissioner Hilda M. Barg
Commissioner Sharon Bulova
Commissioner Gerald E. Connolly, NVRC Vice Chairman
Commissioner W. S. Covington, III
Commissioner Joan Cross
Commissioner Steve DeBenedittis
Commissioner Joan DuBois
Commissioner Barbara A. Favola, NVRC Chairman
Commissioner Penelope A. Gross
Commissioner Catherine Hudgins
Commissioner Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.
Commissioner Harold Lippman
Commissioner Elaine N. McConnell
Commissioner Martin E. Nohe
Commissioner Harry J. Parrish, II, NVRC Treasurer
Commissioner Redella S. Pepper
Commissioner M. Jane Seeman
Commissioner Paul C. Smedberg
Commissioner Linda Smyth
Commissioner Stephen Snow
Commissioner J. Walter Tejada
Commissioner Bruce E. Tulloch
Commissioner Kristen C. Umstatt
Commissioner Fred E. Yohey, Jr.
vacancy

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

STAFF PRESENT

G. Mark Gibb
Linda M. Tenney
Linda Summerall
Ken Billingsley
Barbara Gordon
Doug Pickford
James Van Zee

Executive Director
Deputy Director
Executive Secretary
Director, Demographics
Communications Director
Director, Environmental and Heritage Resources
Director, Regional Planning Services

GUESTS PRESENT

Bruce Bennett
Sue Rowland

Hunter Mill Traffic Calming Committee
SR Consulting, Inc.

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.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS Chairman Favola welcomed two new members: Steve DeBenedittis, Mayor of Herndon, and Hal Lippman, Falls Church City Council.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES Commissioner Seeman moved approval of the minutes of the July 27, 2006, meeting. The motion was seconded and carried, with Commissioners Cross, DeBenedittis, Lippman and Smedberg abstaining.

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

- A. Resolution No. P07-03: Authorization to Submit a Transportation Enhancement Grant Proposal to the Virginia Department of Transportation
- B. Resolution No. P07-05: Authorization to Enter into a Memorandum of Agreement with the District of Columbia, the National Park Service and the Federal Highways Administration to Conduct a study on the Preservation and Rehabilitation of the Original Boundary Markers of Washington, D.C.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Gibb conducted a PowerPoint presentation of his report.

Highlights included:

- A hard copy of the amended Bylaws were included in the meeting package.
- NVRC will conduct a regional water supply study, which the member jurisdictions' chief administrative officers (CAOs) have agreed to.
- The Regional Pre-disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan was approved by FEMA in July.
- There are no UASI funds to update the 2003 Northern Virginia Emergency Preparedness Guide. The CAOs would like to update this guide by spring 2007, and they will work with the Public Information Officers Committee on different ways to disseminate the information. While Commissioners favored an updated guide, including translation into foreign languages, several were adamant that a funding request needs to be made to UASI.
- 211 is available in Virginia except Northern Virginia, where planning is still underway. While the General Assembly has allocated funding, it is not enough.
- Two rain garden seminars were held last week. One was targeted toward professional landscapers and the other was for homeowners. Both seminars were widely attended.
- The South Potomac Communities Charrette, scheduled for November 2-4 in Dumfries, may have to be postponed due to funding difficulties; the Town of Dumfries has not been able to secure funding from VDOT. Commissioner Yohey reported that 18 businesses have made financial commitments to date. Commissioner Connolly moved that the Commission send a letter to VDOT from the chairman and vice chairman requesting financial assistance. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

Commissioner Smedberg asked if, during previous discussions on amending the bylaws, there was discussion of rotating members on the *ad hoc* Nominations Committee. Chairman Favola pointed out that the amended bylaws call for members representing a county, city and town on all of the committees, and members are appointed annually to the *ad hoc* Nominations Committee.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Favola reviewed important upcoming events:

- October 26 Commission meeting will focus on the 2007 General Assembly session.
- December 14 Commission meeting will be held jointly with the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority.
- January 10, 2007, is the start of the 2007 General Assembly session.
- January 25 Commission meeting: Representatives from the Northern Virginia Fire Chiefs Committee and the CAOs will brief the Commission on homeland security.
- February 1 is VML/VACo Day in Richmond. The Commission will hold a brief business meeting that day in the General Assembly building.

PRELIMINARY
BUDGET AND
PROGRAMS

Commissioner Parrish reported that the Operations Committee had reviewed and discussed the Commission's draft preliminary budget for fiscal year 2008. Each fall, the Commission must transmit its preliminary budget for the upcoming fiscal year to its member governments so they can factor in their Commission dues in their own upcoming budgets. Commissioner Parrish moved Resolution No. P07-04. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

GENERAL
ASSEMBLY'S
SPECIAL SESSION

Commissioner Connolly announced that the General Assembly had adjourned *sine die*. No significant bills were submitted to the Governor.

The Albo-Rust transportation bill had been thoroughly discussed at the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority's September 14 meeting, with Delegates Rust and Watts reviewing the bill. The bill would have provided roughly \$110 million/year in net new funding for Northern Virginia, whereas \$700 million/year is needed.

The Albo-Rust transportation bill died 17-5 in committee.

Chairman Favola reported that the Commission officers offered NVTVA and the business community the opportunity for a radio campaign supporting increased transportation funding. The Northern Virginia Business Coalition took the idea and ran with it without consulting the local elected officials.

EXECUTIVE
SESSION

At 8:40 p.m., Commissioner Parrish moved that the Commission convene in closed session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711, subsection A.1 for a personnel matter. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

OPEN SESSION

At 9:04 p.m., Commissioner Parrish moved to certify that (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed, or considered in the closed session by the Commission. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

Commissioner Parrish moved that the Chairman sign the letter extending the Executive Director's current employment contract through December 31, 2006. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

COMMITTEE
REPORTS

Operations

Commissioner Parrish pointed out that the financial reports for July and August had been distributed, and the Commission is in the black. He moved acceptance of the financial reports. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

Communications

Commissioner Smedberg reported that the committee had met earlier in the evening. He thanked Commissioner Connolly for making two Fairfax County staffers available to assist Commission staff with this project.

Commission staff developed a traceability matrix for updating the website. Within the next few weeks, Commission staff will update the look of the website. Staff wants an additional meeting with the Fairfax County staff before issuing the RFP.

Commissioner Smedberg also reported that several magazine and newspapers have recently reported on NVRC activities, including the solid waste survey, election of officers, and the rain gardens workshops.

The Communications Committee also discussed funding sources for ongoing information projects.

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business, Chairman Favola adjourned the meeting at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Approved by:

G. Mark Gibb
Executive Director

Barbara A. Favola
Chairman