

NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL COMMISSION

Minutes of the Commission Meeting Held Thursday, July 22, 2010

COMMISSIONERS

(The names of those members present are highlighted.)

Hon. Sharon Bulova	County of Fairfax
Hon. John C. Cook	County of Fairfax
Hon. Joan Cross	City of Fairfax
Hon. Steve DeBenedittis	Town of Herndon
Hon. Barbara A. Favola	County of Arlington
Hon. John Foust	County of Fairfax
Hon. Robin Gardner	City of Falls Church
Hon. Penelope A. Gross	County of Fairfax
Hon. Pat Herrity	County of Fairfax
Hon. Catherine Hudgins	County of Fairfax
Hon. Robert W. Lazaro, Jr.	Town of Purcellville
Hon. Michael C. May	County of Prince William
Hon. Suhas Naddoni	City of Manassas Park
Hon. Martin E. Nohe, NVRC Vice Chairman	County of Prince William
Hon. Harry J. Parrish II, NVRC Chairman	City of Manassas
Hon. Redella S. Pepper, NVRC Treasurer	City of Alexandria
Hon. Frank J. Principi	County of Prince William
Hon. Kenneth "Ken" Reid	Town of Leesburg
Hon. M. Jane Seeman	Town of Vienna
Hon. Paul C. Smedberg	City of Alexandria
Hon. Linda Smyth	County of Fairfax
Hon. J. Walter Tejada	County of Arlington
Hon. Nancy West	Town of Dumfries
Hon. Scott K. York	County of Loudoun

STAFF PRESENT

G. Mark Gibb	Executive Director
Linda M. Tenney	Deputy Director
Linda Summerall	Executive Secretary
Amelia Khalil	Sr. Contracts Officer/Quality Manager
David Schwengel	Director, Regional Emergency Preparedness Planning
Heather Shackley	Website Administrator
Michelle Simmons	Director, Human Services
Debbie Spiliotopoulos	Sr. Environmental Planner
Jeff Stern	Regional Director, No. Va. Emergency Response System
Peggy Tadej	No. Va. Regional BRAC Coordinator
Aimee Vosper	Director, Environmental & Planning Services

OTHERS PRESENT

Bruce Bennett	Hunter Mill Road Traffic Calming Cmte.
Katie Boyle	Fairfax Co. Legislative Services
Sue Rowland	NVRC Legislative Liaison; SR Consulting, Inc.

CALL TO ORDER Chairman Parrish called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m. and welcomed the new members: Robin Gardner, Falls Church City Council and former NVRC Commissioner, and Ken Reid, Leesburg Town Council. The Town of Dumfries' new representative, Councilwoman Nancy West, was unable to attend this meeting.

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.

APPROVAL OF
MINUTES

Commissioner Gross moved approval of the following minutes: April 22 Commission meeting, June 3 Executive Committee meeting, and June 19 Commission strategic planning retreat. The motion was seconded and carried with Commissioners Reid and Gardner abstaining.

FINANCIAL
REPORTS

Commissioner Pepper, Chairman of the Operations Committee, reported that the committee met prior to the Commission meeting and recommends Commission approval of the Financial Reports for May 2010. The motion was seconded and unanimously carried.

ELECTION OF
OFFICERS

Commissioner Bulova reported she is standing in for Commissioner York who was unable to attend this meeting. The slate of officers for re-election is:

Harry J. Parrish II (City of Manassas)	Chairman
Martine E. Nohe (Prince William Co.)	Vice Chairman
Redella S. Pepper (City of Alexandria)	Treasurer

Commissioner Bulova moved adoption of the slate of officers as presented. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR'S
REPORT

Mr. Gibb introduced two new staff: Amelia Khalil, Sr. Contracts Officer/Quality Manager, working with the AIDS programs in the Human Services Division; and Peggy Tadej, Northern Virginia Regional BRAC Coordinator. Both these positions are grant funded.

Mr. Gibb distributed a copy of his report:

- Conservation Corridors — strategically planned and managed networks of natural spaces that conserve ecosystems. Staff will identify and prioritize areas of ecological, recreational, and regional significance for future conservation opportunities.

- Ryan White “Maintenance of Effort” — mandated under the federal act. Localities within the metro D.C. region that fund Ryan White eligible services must maintain their local funding commitments at FY 2007 levels in order for the region to continue to be eligible for Ryan White funding. In Northern Virginia, those localities are Alexandria, Arlington and Fairfax County; their combined expenditure of \$450,000 on services represents about 40% of the total maintenance of effort budget in the D.C. region. By comparison, NVRC receives less than 20% of the total metro award. Responding to Commissioner Gross’s inquiry, staff assured her that the “Maintenance of Effort” is not related to the Whitman-Walker of Northern Virginia issue.

- Northern Virginia: A World-Class Region — staff has met twice with the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce to address a visioning process for Northern Virginia. The Chamber’s leadership will pursue a multi-stakeholder process that could lead to an international business summit, a visioning product, and/or a strategic plan. Next steps are to include a few additional key stakeholders and more fully develop the business proposition.

Chairman Parrish reported that the two chambers in Prince William have merged. Commissioner Nohe added that the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce will be working with its Prince William counterpart. Commissioner Gardner stated her hope that the larger organizations will reach out to the smaller, local chambers.

- Potomac Heritage National Scenic Trail projects update.

- Grant Applications updates — staff is developing pre-applications for the joint HUD Sustainable Community Challenge Grant (for a comprehensive regional energy plan to create sustainable communities in Northern Virginia) and DOT’s TIGER II Planning Grant (for multi-modal alternatives to address Northern Virginia BRAC issues). Although not

funded for DOE's energy grant, NVRC continues to work with its private sector partners to develop an initiative to provide services to local governments and individuals.

Replying to Commissioner Reid's inquiry, Commissioner Nohe said Commissioner Principi is putting up the 20% match of the TIGER II grant from his Prince William Board of County Supervisors' district fund.

- VTRANS 2035 Transportation Plan — the state is soliciting comments. NVRC staff review found that the plan does not integrate or include trail systems and parks as assets when examining land use decisions with transportation planning, nor does it account for significant changes to housing, traffic and transportation needs due to BRAC in Northern Virginia. Staff will submit these comments.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Parrish reminded the members that the Commission does not meet in August; the next meeting will be September 23.

Vice Chairman Nohe reported he has been told there will be a special session of the General Assembly this year to address the recommendations of the Governor's Commission on Government Reform & Restructuring; however, the General Assembly will not address the transportation recommendations. The special session will most likely occur after the election. Ms. Rowland added that ABC store privatization is a focus of that commission.

FY 2009 AUDIT REPORT

Commissioner Pepper reported that the Operations Committee reviewed the FY09 audit report and recommends Commission approval. The auditors gave an unqualified opinion. The motion was seconded and Resolution No. P11-01 was adopted unanimously.

FY 2011 BUDGET AND WORK PLAN

Commissioner Pepper reported that the Operations Committee reviewed the draft budget and recommends adoption by the Commission, adding that it is a modest budget and work program. Eight positions remain unfilled. In some ways it reflects the member jurisdictions' budgets.

Mr. Gibb pointed out that the member per capita dues rate remains unchanged. He reminded the members that the state has cut NVRC's appropriation by 68 percent, adding this is shortsighted since NVRC maximizes every state dollar by ten. The agency's GIS position will remain unfilled for FY11, as well as seven other positions. Mr. Gibb added that communications was discussed at the retreat, and staff will publish an e-newsletter from the Executive Director's Commission meeting reports.

Commissioner Pepper moved adoption of Resolution No. P11-02. The motion was seconded. Commissioner Pepper then reported that Commissioner Reid has volunteered to assist with communications, and that Commissioners Gross and Reid, along with Mr. Gibb, will meet with Fairfax County's Public Information Officer as to how Commissioners can advocate and educate on behalf of NVRC.

Responding to Commissioner Reid's inquiry, Mr. Gibb explained that the population figures in the budget are the most recent from UVa's Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service (cities and counties) and the U.S. Census (towns). The dues formula computation is proscribed by NVRC's Bylaws. The Preliminary FY11 budget with dues calculations was forwarded last fall to all member governments' chief elected official and chief administrative officer.

Resolution No. P11-02 carried with Commissioner Reid abstaining.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

RETREAT REPORT Mr. Gibb announced that a broader discussion of matters that arose at the retreat will take place at the Commission's September 23 meeting.

Commissioner Pepper thanked Chairman Parrish for hosting the retreat in the City of Manassas. Chairman Parrish thanked the members and staff for participating. Commissioner Gross remarked on the excellent job by Dana Kauffman as retreat facilitator.

Ideas mentioned at the retreat to improve Commission meetings included:

- change the time (lunch, dinner?)
- meet every other month and have work sessions on the opposite month
- merge some regional entities to have fewer meetings
- have the agenda shaped by members — ask Commissioners what are the hottest topics they will face in the next few months
- shorter presentations and more conversation among members
- focus on big things, like energy or the Census; NVRC could be the convener on a discussion about impact: growth, diversity, redistricting unite all of us
- “hash out” ideas not normally discussed; be the place for debating the larger issues, instead of placing so much emphasis on consensus

Mr. Gibb added that the members will be surveyed before the September meeting. Chairman Parrish requested that staff answer the same survey.

Commissioner Bulova suggested that the Commission focus on community energy planning rather than having a presentation on a different topic at the meetings. Mr. Gibb added that a regional plan is being considered and NVRC staff is partnering with the business community to hold a regional summit this fall.

OTHER BUSINESS • Staff distributed Resolution No. P11-03, NVRC SELECTION OF APPOINTEE TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE HEALTH SYSTEMS AGENCY OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA, recommending appointment of Reuben K. Varghese, MD, MPH, Arlington County's Health Director. Commissioner Pepper moved approval. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

• Mr. Gibb announced that the Virginia Association of Planning District Commissions holds its annual summer conference next week, and Commissioner Nohe will be elected president. Commissioner Nohe added his goal is to visit each of the other 20 planning district commissions to discuss their most pressing issues.

ADJOURNMENT There being no further business, Chairman Parrish adjourned the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

G. Mark Gibb
Executive Director

Approved by:

Harry J. Parrish II
Chairman