

**MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING**  
**OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF**  
**VGRC COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**NOVEMBER 15, 2016**

**AT THE RIVER CLUB**

**VENICE, FLORIDA**

**Board Members in attendance:**

John Moeckel – President  
Roger Efron – Exec VP  
Bill Dwyer – VP  
Fred Baughman – Treasurer  
Tom Jones – Secretary  
Diane Maskol - VP  
Diane Bazlamit  
Tom Long  
Bob Samuels  
Fred Williamson

**Member of External Affairs committee:**

Jerry Jasper

Call to order: John Moeckel, President, called the meeting to order at 3:31pm.

Secretary's report: Tom Jones, secretary, said that the draft minutes from the October meeting were previously circulated for comments and revisions via e-mail. The vote for approval was unanimous.

Treasurer's report: Fred Baughman, Treasurer, reported that we have \$76,376 in our general account and savings and \$37,865 in a landscape buffering reserve. Our deferred revenue from advance dues collections for 2017-2020 is just over \$20,000.

**New Business**

1. New EA Committee member: John Moeckel announced that Tom Long has been added as a member of the External Affairs Committee. There are more issues meaning more work for this committee.

2. External Affairs issue #1 –Hospital expansion in Venice: John and Roger Effron had a good meeting with the CEO of Venice Bayfront to discuss their future plans. John reported that both Sarasota Memorial Hospital and Venice Bayfront oppose each other's expansion proposals which were submitted to the State. A decision will come from Tallahassee by Dec. 2.

3. External Affairs issue #2 – Sheriff's maintenance facility: John Moeckel said that some Laurel Road area residents aren't happy with the location, per Sheriff Knight. This issue will go before the County board in December, and the sheriff asked for a letter of support from us with any stipulations we feel are necessary.

4. External Affairs issue #3 – Venice parks and Ajax property: Jerry Jasper lead the discussion on how to prepare for the Dec. 12 workshop to discuss the Parks master plan. The board agreed that 3 speakers from the Venetian would be sufficient, and all should remind the Council that the original intention of the Ajax property purchase was to use it for a park.

5. External Affairs issue #4 – Milano development rezoning: Jerry Jasper reported that the plan to bring the Laurel Lakes property into Milano is now before the City planning staff. He expects that there will be very little opposition.

6. External Affairs issue #5 – Mini-storage development on Laurel Rd. at Knights Trail: Jerry Jasper said there has been no response yet on our buffering proposal.

7. External Affairs issue #6 – Solid waste and recycling: Jerry Jasper said the City's Public Works Dept. is moving ahead with the plan to test the automated collection system.

8. External Affairs issue #7 – Annexation of property at Jacaranda & Border: Jerry Jasper said the developer of this property will make a presentation on Nov. 28 at Fire Station #3 and he expects that nearby Border Road residents will be present to oppose this annexation into the City.

9. External Affairs issue #8 – Crush-It plant: Jerry Jasper said a site preparation application was filed by the property owner with no notice to us, which contradicts what he agreed to do. Jerry will research this and report back. On a related issue, a concrete crushing operation was started on property north of Ajax (old Cemex site). This was reported to the City and code enforcement officers went to the site and shut it down for violations.

10. External Affairs issue #9 – Workforce housing: Jerry Jasper reported that there is lots of interest in this subject among City and County elected officials. The board discussed what, if any, position we should take on the issue with a number of ideas. The board voted unanimously to investigate hiring a consultant who would study the impact of low cost high density housing on the Venetian. Roger Effron and Tom Long will look into this.

11. Membership: Bill Dwyer reported that membership is at 504 for 2017. Mailings were sent out to each of the 3 categories of members or non-members. The first new member orientation is coming up and this will likely lead to additional new members.

12. Marketing activities: Roger Effron reviewed how the Wall of Something is going and there are now 50 items posted with 3 new ones just in. Parcels for November will be out next week.

13. Other discussions: Fred Williamson said that an Adopt-a-Road cleanup is scheduled for Nov. 16, with additional cleanup planned for every 6 weeks. John Moeckel said he contacted the City code enforcement and the real estate signs along Laurel Road have been moved off of the road right-of-way onto private property.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 pm.

The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 20 at 3:30pm at the River Club.

Respectfully submitted,

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Thomas W. Jones, Secretary