

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

**APRIL 25, 2017**

**AT THE RIVER CLUB**

**VENICE, FLORIDA**

**Board Members in attendance:**

John Moeckel – President

Roger Efron – Exec VP

Carol Barbieri – VP

Diane Maskol – VP

Tom Jones – Secretary

Diane Bazlamit

Bob Samuels

Fred Williamson

**Guest:**

Jerry Jasper

**Call to order:** John Moeckel, President, called the meeting to order at 3:30pm.

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

**Treasurer's report:** Fred Baughman, Treasurer, was absent, however he reported via email in advance that we have \$81,076 in our general account and savings plus \$37,865 in a landscape buffering reserve.

## New Business

1. External Affairs issue #1 – Venice Comprehensive Plan: Jerry Jasper reported that the Comp Plan draft is now completed and will be submitted to the City Council. It shows a maximum allowance for 2,785 affordable housing units in the combined area Laurel Park and the Knights Trail neighborhoods, plus a maximum of 500 units of bonus in all of Venice. The Mayor is pushing for a waiver of impact, building and hook-up fees for affordable housing amounting to as much as \$7.6 million. Jerry and John Moeckel will write a letter to the Council opposing the waiver of these fees to a for-profit company. There was full consensus of the board to send this letter.
2. External Affairs issue #2 – Parks in NE Venice: John Moeckel said that the Mayor has directed the city manager to look into the purchase of about 10 acres next to the proposed Nolen Gardens development on Knights Trail for use as a park.
3. External Affairs issue #3 – Crush-It plant: Jerry Jasper reported that the owner plans to enlarge the berms and build a 10 foot high concrete sectional wall along his full property length of Gene Green Road. The working hours of this facility are still to be determined.
4. External Affairs issue #4 – Titan America: Jerry Jasper said that this plant is operating outside of the hours stated in the pre-annexation agreement and he has asked the City to look into this for compliance.
5. External Affairs issue #5 – 700 Gene Green LLC: Jerry Jasper reported that the owner of this company is resisting any limits on his concrete recycling operation. This business has filed an application to operate, and then a site development plan goes to the Planning Commission. The City attorney is reviewing how the property use fits with the pre-annexation agreement for this site. There was full consensus that this is a case we should oppose strongly to protect the interest of Venetian residents, so there was a unanimous vote to authorize Jerry Jasper to spend up to \$2,500 to contact an attorney for an interpretation and opinion.
6. External Affairs issue #6 – City fire fee: John Moeckel asked for a board member to head this effort, and Diane Bazlamit and Carol Barbieri agreed to co-chair the sub-committee. They will contact Paul & Dee Glatz about possibly working with them on fact-finding.
7. External Affairs issue #7 – Knights Trail extension: John Moeckel said he spoke with County commissioner Al Maio about this, and Al said it's on hold for now. John recommended that we push this with Al to get it in front of the MPO (Metropolitan Planning Organization), and also get businesses in the area to support it. There was consensus of the board that we act on this.
8. External Affairs issue #8 – Portofino apartments: Jerry Jasper said that an application will be heard by the Planning Commission in early May, and then the builder will meet with the advisory board members from the Venetian and Willow Chase.

9. Bench proposal: Roger Effron presented his recommendation for a style of bench that he will propose to the VCC board for placement in two spots off the sidewalk, one each along Pesaro Drive and Veneto Blvd. The benches would be very heavy (about 300 pounds) and made of green recycled plastic to fit in with the surrounding vegetation. There was unanimous board approval to spend up to \$1,000 for this project, which would be a gift to the community.

10. Text system proposal: Roger Effron explained how a special text system would make it faster and easier to communicate with HRT (hurricane readiness team) leaders and members in the event of an emergency. The approximate cost is \$.05 per phone number. There was a unanimous vote to approve spending of up to \$500 for this testing system.

11. Front entry flagpole: John Moeckel discussed a proposal to replace the existing flagpole at our entrance with a larger 25 foot pole and 4'x6' flag that would be lighted for nighttime display. He will present this to the VCDD board as a gift to the community. There was unanimous approval to spend up to \$2,500 for the pole, flag, and installation.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55pm

The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 23 at 3:30pm at the River Club.

Respectfully submitted,

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Thomas W. Jones, Secretary