

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

AUGUST 25, 2015

AT THE RIVER CLUB

VENICE, FLORIDA

Board Members in attendance:

Roger Efron – Exec VP
Bill Dwyer – VP
Jerry Jasper – VP
Diane Maskol – VP
Tom Jones – secretary
Bob Samuels
Carol Barbieri
Marge Chandler
Jerry Flood
Bruce Smith (via phone link)

Guest:

Frank Giddens, Venice Fire Dept.

1. Call to order: Roger Efron, Exec VP, called the meeting to order at 3:00pm.
2. Secretary's report: Tom Jones, secretary, said the minutes from the June 23 board meeting had been circulated via e-mail. They were unanimously approved.
3. Treasurer's report: Fred Baughman, treasurer, was absent and there was no report.
4. Discussion with Frank Giddens, VFD: Lieutenant Giddens attend the meeting and handles community outreach. He reviewed the classes they can offer on CPR and fire extinguisher use. There was consensus among the board members to offer a CPR class to Venetians after the season starts. The cost is \$5 per person for the American Heart Association card, which is good for 2 years. Any resident could attend and the Association would pick up the cost for members.

5. Activities and Events Flyer: Roger Effron distributed a 1-page 3-fold flyer summarizing the events and activities to be put on by the Association this season. It received positive reviews and there was unanimous approval to spend up to \$1,000 on printing. The plan is to place these at the River Club and Golf Club and possibly include them in some membership mailings.

6. Membership Drive: Bill Dwyer, membership chair, reviewed the plans for 2016. He said we have almost 300 paid members for the upcoming year with multiple year payments. He said we should begin using the 2016 form and rates beginning September 1st. He plans to send 3 different letters – to current, past due, and never joined categories. Jerry Flood agreed to work with him.

7. Venice Traffic Task Force: Carol Barbieri gave her report on a recent meeting of this task force, of which she is a member with 8 other Venice residents. They will focus on the issues of traffic, parking, and bridge opening times. Their next meeting is September 3rd.

8. HRT update: The HRT (Hurricane Readiness Team) committee is comprised of Bill Dwyer, Jerry Flood, and Tom Jones. They reported that they are prepared with the equipment on hand if any hurricane should come our way. Detailed advance preparation of personnel isn't practical since it isn't known who would be in town and available to be part of the on-site team.

9. Website: Jerry Jasper reported that there has been very little interest and activity with the inter-active parts of the website, and he doesn't feel that the maintenance and time spent is worth it. The board consensus was to discontinue the common interests, local resources, and calendar sections of the site. There was a discussion with nothing decided about possibly offering a retainer fee plan to Joe Santucci so we would have his website expertise readily available to us.

10. Signage at Villages of Milano development: Jerry Jasper showed examples of the proposed signs for the Neal Communities development on Jacaranda Blvd. There was consensus to approve it, along with discouraging a bike/bus shelter at Jacaranda and Laurel Road.

11. External Issues: These issues which affect VG&RC were discussed:

- VFD consolidation (referendum on ballot in March 2016)
- Police dept. consolidation – no movement to proceed with this idea
- Comprehensive plan revision – future input will be needed
- Bond referendum in March 2016 – included are funds for a parking garage, new police station, road improvements
- Venice Minerals site – Council has approved impact fund money to buy this site
- Legacy Trail overpass – County will probably add funds to improve the design
- 691 & I-75 interchange – new discussions on this subject
- Reservoir plan (next to former Venice Minerals site) – upcoming meeting on the pipeline
- I-75 landscape plan – John Moeckel working on this
- Hunting on County land – to be discussed in upcoming meeting with Commissioner Maio

12. Venice Fire Dept. merger issue: what position, if any, does the board want to take? There was discussion but no resolution.

13. Merger of POA and VGRCCA: This subject was brought up for additional discussion since some board members were absent from the June meeting. Roger Effron distributed a summary of what's involved when homeowners take control of the POA in 2016:

- Current landscape:
 - The POA will be resident-run in 2016
 - The POA will take time to develop as an effective team
 - The CA is established and has many accomplishments in and around VG&RC
 - Some state the need for one voice in the community, that being the POA
 - The POA operates off a budget, and the CA charges membership dues
- Future possibilities:
 - One organization with the POA assuming responsibility for many of the tasks (Parcels, external issues, seminars) that the CA currently handles, possibly adding a “community association” committee reporting to the POA board.
 - A hybrid of the two organizations with the POA focusing on the daily operation and rules, while the CA handles the external issues and events. A representative of each board would serve as an ex-officio member of the other board for good communication.
 - Two organizations as exist now

The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 29 at 3:00pm at the River Club.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas W. Jones, Secretary