

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

DECEMBER 15, 2015

AT THE RIVER CLUB

VENICE, FLORIDA

Board Members in attendance:

John Moeckel – President

Roger Efron – Exec VP

Bill Dwyer – VP

Diane Maskol – VP

Bill Tvenstrup – VP

Fred Baughman – Treasurer

Tom Jones – Secretary

Jerry Flood

Bob Samuels

Carol Barbieri

Bruce Smith

Call to order: John Moeckel, President, called the meeting to order at 3:33pm.

Secretary's report: Tom Jones, secretary, said the minutes from the November 17 meeting still needed some clarifications. These were cleared up by those who attended, and a revised draft will be circulated which can be posted on the website and approved at the January meeting.

Treasurer's report: Fred Baughman, treasurer, distributed the monthly financial report via email to all Board members. Our account balance is \$75,310 in our cash account and \$37,865 in a restricted account for landscape buffering. There was a question on how we could spend some of our funds for the betterment of VG&RC. In the past we have purchased bike racks, signs for the nature walk, and suggested park benches for some areas. New places for projects will be considered. The financial report was unanimously approved.

New Business

1. Membership: Bill Dwyer reported that we're now at 541 paid members for 2016. An e-blast will be sent this week in 2 versions, one to past members and another to those who have never joined. Bill said the new database system makes this sorting easy. Bike-O-Rama and the first new member orientation in January will be our next opportunities to solicit new members, plus a letter is being sent to all new residents. Personal contact with neighbors and friends was encouraged.

2. External Issues:

- Traffic Task Force – Carol Barbieri reported that this board still does not have enough members, so they only have informal meetings. They have endorsed the idea of a testing a trolley to shuttle visitors who park at the train station to Venice and Miami Avenues from January through March. The issue of bridge openings and the effect on the downtown traffic were discussed at length.
- Toscana Isles wall – John Moeckel said that John Peskin, the developer, has resisted making any changes to the color of the Laurel Road wall because he wants to keep the entire length of wall the same color. The City planning commission is planning to look into this.
- Knights Trails storage facility – there has been a proposal to build a self-storage building on the west side of Knights Trail across from CVS, though not fronting on Laurel Road. The developer plans to apply for a zoning change and then submit a site development plan, which we will monitor.

3. January Events: Roger Effron said that the seminar entitled “The beat goes on” regarding cardiac issues has been cancelled due to the inability to work out the complex details with a medical professional. Bike-O-Rama is schedule for Saturday, January 9, and the owner of Bicycles International will be personally involved again this year.

4. Town Hall Meeting: Roger Effron led the discussion of suggested speakers and content. A motion to survey Venetians with their ideas for topics was unanimously approved. The name of the event was discussed, however the consensus was to stay with “Town Hall Meeting”. There was a suggestion to promote service groups such as Rotary and Lions at this meeting, and Roger and his committee of Carol Barbieri, Jerry Flood, Bill Dwyer, and Bill Tvenstrup will work on this.

5. Planning For Future Events: Roger Effron began a discussion on future planning for the VGRCCA which covered a range of ideas. This included our relationship with the new resident-controlled POA and the possibility of merging, which was previously voted on and rejected and still has a split of those in favor and against. A committee consisting of Roger, Fred Baughman, Bill Dwyer, and Diane Maskol was assigned to look into the details involved in changing our role.

6. Letter on Knights Trail extension: John Moeckel asked for more guidance on what we would recommend to the County on this proposed roadway extension. It was agreed to survey the community on this issue.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:44pm.

Special Meeting:

At 5:44pm, John Moeckel called to order a special meeting to act on a vacancy on the board due to Jerry Jasper's resignation.

Diane Maskol made a motion to nominate Diane Bazlamit for the vacancy and it was seconded. The resume of this candidate was discussed, and the vote to approve her was unanimous.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:52pm.

The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 26 at 3:30pm at the River Club.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas W. Jones, Secretary