

**MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING**  
**OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF**  
**VG&RC COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.**  
**MARCH 26, 2019**  
**AT THE VENETIAN RIVER CLUB**  
**VENICE, FLORIDA**

**Board Members in attendance:**

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

**Guest:**

Nancy Spokowski

**Call to order:** John Moeckel, President, called the meeting to order at 3:03pm.

**Secretary’s report:** The minutes from the February meeting and the February special meeting were both previously circulated to the board for comments and they were approved unanimously.

**Treasurer’s report:** Fred Baughman, Treasurer, gave the financial report, and we have \$115,604 in our account, with \$67,865 of this in a reserve. For 2018, our surplus was \$7,500.

**External Affairs issues:**

1. **External Affairs issue #1 – meeting with fire dept:** Jerry Jasper reported on the meeting with Venice Fire Dept. Chief Carvey to discuss the proposal for the City to take over ambulance service/EMS (emergency medical services) from the County. The chief said this would improve response time, save \$1.3 million per year, and place 2 EMS qualified people in each fire station instead of 1. The transition time is estimated at 3 years. There was unanimous approval to support this plan. There was discussion on when to have board members speak at a Council meeting in support.

2. External Affairs issue #2 – develop a platform of issues: Jerry Jasper suggested that the board develop a list of issues that represent the interests of VG&RC residents and distribute that to candidates for this fall’s City elections. There was consensus to do this. A survey of the community was recommended to come up with the list.

**Other business:**

3. Board nominating committee: Diane Maskol introduced Nancy Spokowski as a nominee for a board seat, and Mike Wendroff is the other nominee. Both were approved unanimously.

4. Bike-O-Rama day change: Bill Dwyer said that Wes from Bicycles International asked him if our usual Saturday date could be changed to a Friday, as Saturdays are very busy days in their shop. Board discussion was on what day of the week is best for our community. Bill will check with Wes about staying with Saturday but starting and ending earlier.

5. Community betterment project: Roger Effron said that a new bench is still in the works. Another idea is an electronic billboard in a central or high traffic VG&RC location.

6. Member survey: Roger Effron reported that the *Parcels* “open rate” is 80-85%, and often even higher rates during the summer season. He recommended running a survey on seminar attendance and other suggestions.

7. Membership: Bill Dwyer reported that there are 930 paid members for 2019 compared to last year’s 920, with 478 paid for 2020 and 213 for 2021. The cost of the campaign was reduced by using email reminders first, and then US mail.

8. Community alert: Tom Jones brought up the subject of how to alert the community in the event of an emergency, such as the recent fire in the boardwalk preserve. There was consensus to leave emergency alerts and orders to the fire and police departments.

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

The meeting was adjourned at 5:03pm on March 26, 2019.

Respectfully submitted,

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Thomas W. Jones, Secretary