

MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF
VG&RC COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION, INC.

OCTOBER 20, 2020

AT THE RIVER CLUB

VENICE, FLORIDA

Board Members in attendance:

Diane Maskol - President
Michael Wendroff – Exec VP
Nancy Spokowski – Secretary
John Moeckel - VP
Jerry Jasper – VP
Lew Perry - VP
Fred Baughman - Treasurer
Tom Jones
Roger Efron
Bob Samuels

Call to order: Diane Maskol, President, called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm and verified that a quorum was established.

Public Comments: No members of the public were present to make comments.

Secretary's report: The minutes from the September Board meeting were previously circulated to the Board for comments and they were approved unanimously.

External Affairs issues:

1. **External Affairs issue #1 – Laurel Road Expansion:** Jerry Jasper reported that the Board of County Commissioners approved \$400K for the preliminary engineering study for this endeavor at their September 22nd meeting. Jerry also reported that he made a presentation to City Council on behalf of the VGRCCA at the October 13th meeting supporting Option C of the design plan for the Laurel Road expansion. At this meeting, City Council awarded the Public/Private Partnership contract for the first phase design planning to Neal Communities. This phase will be for preliminary design purposes and look at and cost out three different possible design plan options. It will likely take about six months for this phase of work to be completed.

2. **External Affairs issue #2 – New Pumping Station in North Venice:** Jerry Jasper reported that work continues on the engineering and installation of two pipelines along the Perimeter Road on the Western boundary of Venetian and continuing towards the Ajax property where a new pumping station will be

built. There will be a Webinar hosted by the POA on this matter in early November. At this time, it is estimated completion of the project will take approximately one year and when completed there should be improved and more consistent water pressure to Venetian residences.

3. External Affairs issue #3 – Dona Bay Reservoir project: This project’s engineering is expected to be completed in mid-2021, with construction to take place between August 2022-2024.

4. External Affairs issue #4 – Northeast Venice Park: Michael Wendroff reported that he gave a presentation to the Parks Advisory Committee at their most recent meeting regarding the need for a park in this area of North Venice. Further he reported that James Clinch, Director of Public Works for the City of Venice, supports our recommendation for a committee of North Venice residents to serve in an advisory capacity regarding this park. In furtherance of formation of such a committee, Mr. Clinch has drafted a resolution of approval to be presented to City Council on October 27th.

5. External Affairs issue #5 – Ad hoc Water Committee: The VGRCCA Ad hoc Water Committee met on Friday, September 18th to discuss various matters including Solitude’s report on the water quality in the Venetian lakes, specifically the nitrogen levels. The Venetian CDD is testing water quality, but at this point, has only agreed to do such testing annually. Many communities test their water quality more frequently in order to determine trends that may result in remediation action plans. Michael proposed that the VGRCCA pay for a second testing in the ensuing months, preferably in the non-rainy season, at an expected cost of \$1,500. This proposal was unanimously approved by the Board and Michael will discuss making arrangements for it with the CDD at our cost. In the course of this discussion, Diane brought up that some landscapers are using Diquat Dibromide in the Venetian and requested that Michael initiate some further follow up on the use of this “toxic” chemical. Nancy asked whether any testing for arsenic has been done, as Golf Courses have been known to have high quantities of arsenic in their soil as a result of fertilizer use. Michael will inquire about this to Solitude and Nancy will follow up with Golf Course on this matter. John mentioned that Venetian used to be an Audubon Society Community, but that this designation was dropped in the past. He volunteered to look into what would be involved in seeking to obtain this status again.

Membership: Nancy Spokowski reported that 994 homes are currently paid members, which is a slightly greater membership than that at the time of our prior Board Meeting. She indicated 26 members have renewed in October to date, and that four new members were added in October to date. Nancy also reported on plans for the annual Membership Drive to commence in November.

Other business:

1. Candidate Forum: Roger Effron reported on the success of the City Council Candidate Forum and the CDD Candidate Forum and indicated that the use of Sight and Sound worked very well, adding to the professionalism of these events. He initiated a discussion about use of the Sight and Sound for future events for the purpose of acting as a Zoom/Webinar coordinator/host. As a result of this discussion, Roger will obtain some cost information about use of the Sight and Sound in the future and Diane will set up a Zoom Special Meeting to discuss Board Approval for this.
2. Seminars for 2020/2021: No additional Seminars are scheduled for November/December at this time.
3. Roger inquired as to whether the head of the HRT Program is required to be a Board Member. Discussion ensued that this would be acceptable, but any such person would still need to report to

the Board and seek approval for any expenditures. Roger will follow up further in the coming months on his recommendation on this matter.

Treasurer's report: Fred Baughman, Treasurer, reported that our surplus at this time for this year stands at approximately \$10.4K, as a result of revenues of \$25,377 and expenses of \$14,944 to date. In addition, he stated that to date \$13,325 in revenue has been collected for use in 2021. He further reported that there currently is \$30,844 of cash available for current use.

Other:

In addition, the previously mentioned plan for a short Zoom Special Meeting, the next Board Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 17 at 3:00 pm at the River Club.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:06 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Spokowski, Secretary