

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of
The Venetian Golf & River Club Community Association, Inc.
Held at the River Club May 10, 2021**

Board Members in attendance:

Diane Maskol - President
Michael Wendroff – Exec VP
Jerry Jasper – VP
Nancy Spokowski - VP
Fred Baughman - Treasurer
Michelle Trent – Secretary
Tom Jones
John Moeckel
Roger Effron
Mark Faford

Absent: Lew Perry

Call to order: Diane Maskol called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm and verified that a quorum was established.

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

Secretary's report: Minutes of the last board meeting and the special meeting were voted on and unanimously approved.

External Affairs as reported by Michael Wendroff:

Michael and Lew Perry visited the concrete crushing plant to abide by the required annual meeting with them. He reported that it went well, they are following the stipulations, and he believes we have established a good working relationship with them.

The NE Venice Parks Stakeholders Group met recently. The group unanimously approved a motion to pursue both a passive and active park (active park amenities are pickleball, playground, and dog park). This is to meet the needs of the survey responders who requested both types of parks be pursued. Next meeting is June 2nd.

At the City Planning Commission meeting on May 18th a plat amendment submitted by Neal Homes to add an additional 14 homes to Aria will be reviewed. No action to be taken on our part.

There will be a Neighborhood Workshop meeting sponsored by Boone Law Firm regarding rezoning property at 3530 Laurel Rd. Michael will attend to get a better understanding of what is being planned.

The LDRs at the next City Planning Commission meeting will cover the environmental regulations. Michael and Tom Jones to attend.

The Sawgrass community neighborhood group reached out to Michael to network. Michael will meet with their head to get to know one another and seek mutually beneficial items to potentially work on. In addition, he previously had communication with the head of Windwood's neighborhood association.

Laurel Rd Widening: City Council unanimously approved the letter to the county that includes a priority to Laurel Road. Jerry mentioned that +/- \$2 million are tied up for the Pinebrook intersection, and has sent a letter to the County Finance Director asking for clarification of the situation.

Report from Membership Director Nancy Spokowski: 971 homes are current members. This is an increase of 5 homes since the last board meeting. There are 31 houses that are recently sold or pending closing.

Hurricane Readiness Team: Diane thanked Roger for sending out a well-written letter to introduce the HRT to the community.

Town Hall Parcels: Roger reported an 85% open rate of the THP email. To date, 75 copies have been taken from the River Club. Fred recommended that we write a special Town Hall Parcels next year even if we do an in-person event. Roger reported that he received several personal thank you notes from some prominent people. All in all, the Town Hall Parcels was well received with many compliments.

Financials as reported by Fred Baughman, Treasurer: Revenue is now above budget. Surplus is \$8,789. We have \$36,861 available in cash. The Financial Report was circulated via email earlier today, May 10th.

Goal Setting Workshop: Jerry made a motion, and Nancy seconded to approve the goals established at the Board Workshop on April 27, 2021. Discussion pursued. Vote was unanimous to approve all of the goals, which are:

- Increase Association membership 2% for 2022

- Create backup support and training for the following positions: President, Treasurer, Secretary, Membership, and Parcels
- Obtain City of Venice Council's commitment to the Laurel Road Expansion
- Obtain City of Venice Council's commitment to placing a Park in North Venice
- Schedule an in-person event to introduce new residents to the Community Association
- Provide Quarterly Educational Articles in Parcels i.e. the different Governmental entities in Florida
- Commit a minimum of \$3,000 to Community Betterment Projects within the Venetian community
- Organize support activities for two Charitable events

NEW BUSINESS:

Laurel Road Clean-up

Diane asked for a Board member to take over the *Laurel Rd Clean Up* since Bob Samuels has retired from the Board. Mark Faford agreed to take over managing this endeavor.

CA Website

Diane asked who takes care of the CA website in terms of updating, etc. The response was Michael, Fred and Roger are involved in the updating process. Fred mentioned that a couple years ago the Board went through a formal review of the CA website for accuracy and people were assigned pages to keep current. Fred recommended the Board review it quarterly and when all Board members are involved dividing up the pages, the review goes quickly. Roger said that no one person is in charge of the website and should be. Fred suggested he bring a list of all the web pages to the next Board meeting to divide amongst the Board members for review. John Moeckel also volunteered to review the current site. Roger volunteered to be the person responsible for ensuring the web site is up to date from here on out, and will take charge of getting any needed updates completed, including checking that all links are functional and point to current material. His role was approved.

HRT

Roger would like \$500 set aside in reserve to spend on HRT. Voted on and unanimously approved the use of up to \$500 as needed at Roger's discretion for HRT.

Social Event for New Residents

Roger brought up the idea that Michelle had proposed of hosting a social event for new residents to get together. He proposed we do our own orientation to the VGRCCA for new residents to the community. Roger proposed planning it through the summer and possibly host an event as early as October 2021. Discussion pursued amongst several Board members. Michael suggested we do something informal. He likes the social

idea and to include food such as wine and cheese. Jerry and John said there needs to be an incentive such as food. Nancy concurred. Mark commented that we have already approved our goals and that hosting this social event is one of those goals. The planning committee is: Jerry, Nancy, and Mark.

Community Betterment Projects

Nancy asked how we will decide which betterment projects to pursue to meet our \$3,000 goal as outlined above. Discussion followed about how decisions are made and if/when community members' input is sought. Roger stated that the ideas for the betterment projects we have completed have come from the Board, not from residents. There were some questions by Board members on spending CA funds for improvements to the River Club dining room sound system to benefit the quality of our future events. Roger will talk to Denise Payton about sound system considerations for the River Club, as she is pursuing quotations at this time.

Discussion on future events

Board members deliberated on speakers for future events this fall. There were concerns expressed about singling out City Council members for presentations. In the past we have hosted talks with the council members who live in our community. Several board members liked the idea of having a "How the City Works" type of presentation with possibly the new police chief, new fire chief, and maybe even the head of City Public Works.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

June Board meeting will be held as scheduled on June 14th at 4:00 p.m. in person at the River Club.

July Board meeting is canceled due to most board members traveling that month.

Diane suggested we meet on Zoom TBD for August meeting. The decision will be made and confirmed prior to the August meeting date.

Adjournment

A motion was made and seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Trent, Secretary