

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors of
The Venetian Golf & River Club Community Association, Inc.
Held at the River Club and via Zoom on June 12, 2023**

Board Members in attendance:

Roger Effron - President
Tom Jones - Secretary
Mark Faford
Michelle Trent
Steve Hefler
Joe Browne
Taras Kowalczyk (on Zoom)
John Manoush (on Zoom)

Guests present: There were 6 Venetian residents attending in person and 5 initially joining via Zoom.

Call to order: Roger Effron called the meeting to order at 3:45pm.

Secretary's report: The minutes of the May board meeting were unanimously approved.

Public comment: None relative to VGRCCA business.

Treasurer's Report: No report, however there has been no change in our financial position.

External Affairs: Tom Jones relayed updated information from the Venice planning department on two developments on Knights Trail near or at Gene Green Road. Il Girasole has filed a preliminary plat for a mixed-use project. Generations at Venice is requesting an amendment to their site development plan to change the housing type from villas to garden apartments, which will increase the total unit count from 239 to 348.

Joe Browne said the City is planning to install a 2 million gallon water tank to accompany the planned booster pump for the City's potable water system, which will provide more consistent water pressure to NE Venice. This project will be located on City property on Gene Green Road just north of VGRC.

Commercial Application (shopping ctr): Roger Effron reported that the City Council will hold a hearing on the Milano PUD amendment on June 15 and also June 16 if necessary. After a decision is reached, either party can appeal to an administrative judge. Any challenge would be against the City, who would hire outside legal counsel at additional cost.

Laurel Rd widening: Roger Effron gave a review, saying that this is a County project which has been pushed by the City since 2016. Another public meeting on the project is likely in June or July. Funding for the road is awaiting the Governor's approval. Completion of this project is projected in 2025.

Traffic light at VGRC entrance: Roger Effron said that a light at our entrance is not planned and an appeal to change that would need to be made to the County. As of now, the POA has not taken any action, and while there is no urgency on this, a decision needs to be made. A light is projected to cost \$800,000 to \$1 million, and this would be a County expense. The County could install the light 2-3 years later if determined to be warranted. Roger added that he spoke at the May 9 City Council meeting in favor of a light at this intersection. Steve Thomaston, POA board president, did not attend. At this meeting, the Council passed a motion unanimously urging the Governor to approve funding for the road widening.

Traffic Study: Roger Effron described the collaborative effort of the POA and VGRCCA which was initiated by past POA board president Bill Schaid to request a study to focus on the intersection of Laurel Road and Veneto Blvd. This study was performed in March, however the results have not yet been released. The POA apparently wants a second study exclusively for them. The VGRCCA only participated financially in the first study and there is frustration that the results have still not been released.

Seminars: Mark Faford and Michelle Trent reported that they have considered about 25 topics for next season's seminars and are refining that number. Mark said there are dates available from the wildlife expert for "Common backyard wildlife – snakes, alligators, etc." in October and March. The board felt that March was a better date for this popular topic with many more residents back in the community. Also, the candidate forum is held in early October, in line with the November election. Other seminar ideas included topics such as social media, guide dogs, self-defense, and local field trips for small groups.

Meeting broadcast system: John Manoush said that he spoke with POA property manager Ray Juan about borrowing the POA's meeting broadcast device (called an Owl) to test for our use. Ray said he would need the approval of his board to do this. The cost of broadcast devices is \$600 to \$1,000.

Membership: Mark Faford spoke for membership chair Sharon George about her list (circulated to the board) of initiatives to boost membership. Roger Effron recommended Steve Hefler to be the speaker in a proposed video message.

Wall of Something: Michelle Trent reminded the group of the new Wall segment "what's cooking" and asked for members to submit their restaurant recommendations and comments.

Board member comments: Steve Hefler commented that he felt the audio for comments from the audience in the recent POA meeting was poor.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on July 10 at 3:45pm.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:03pm.

Respectfully submitted by Tom Jones, Secretary