

**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 December 11, 2023**

Board Members in attendance:

Roger Effron - President
Fred Baughman - Exec. VP & Treasurer
Tom Jones - secretary
Mark Faford - VP
Dr. Steve Hefler – VP
Michelle Trent
Sharon George
John Manoush
Joe Browne
Taras Kowalczyn (via Zoom)

Guests present: There were 2 residents attending in person and 3 joining via Zoom.

Call to Order: **Roger Effron** called the meeting to order at 12:32pm. He made special note that this is **Michelle Trent’s** last board meeting, as she is leaving to devote the time to her family and work.

Secretary’s report: The minutes from the November 13, 2023 meeting were unanimously approved.

Public Comment: None

Treasurer’s report: **Fred Baughman** reported that our total operating cash is \$115,547, with expenses year to date at \$22,907 and revenue of \$23,623. **John Manoush** gave a very positive initial review of our recent purchase of an OWL device to better facilitate the Zoom function at our board meetings. So far it’s quite effective with directing the camera and microphone to whoever is speaking at the table, and also picks up speakers elsewhere in the room, depending on their distance away.

Board member replacement: **Roger Effron** led a discussion on the process to fill board positions of two resigning members (Michelle Trent and Fred Baughman). A committee of Sharon George, Joe Browne, and Tom Jones will handle the screening of potential candidates.

Membership: **Sharon George** said membership is at 63.3% of residences and includes 3 renters. There are 155 expiring members yet to renew. Board members volunteered to take portions of the list for personal contacts. There is a new resident get-together (for move-ins in 2022 & 2023) planned for Feb. 13 at 9am at the River Club.

Website: **Joe Browne** said the analytics of views on the site dropped in October but are still strong. He feels that photos, event signups, and recognition drive visits. There was a discussion on guidelines for charity listings and whether to copyright our Association logo.

External Affairs: **Tom Jones** reported that the City Council approved on a 4-3 vote to advance the Milano PUD shopping center plan. The approx. 10 acre site and an additional 10 acres will be removed from the previous status as dedicated for open space. Also, there is more commercial development planned for the Laurel Road – Knights Trail intersection, and a map of NE Venice projects will be updated for the upcoming Town Hall meeting.

Seminar debrief: **Steve Hefler** and **Mark Faford** gave a review of the recent SE Guide Dogs event, which was well-attended and very emotional for some. Bike-O-Rama is set for Jan. 6 and Shred-Fest on Feb. 24, plus two other events in January. There was a discussion on the level of attendance at some seminars, justification for the seminar if it's not well-attended, and a question if we are holding too many events.

Town Hall meeting: The organizational committee of Roger Effron, Mark Faford, Steve Hefler and John Manoush met to discuss the format and room setup. The school will allow us to set the room up and possibly start at 5pm instead of 5:30. There will be an audio company to handle the sound but no Zoom. We may have tables for the various VG&RC groups, and speakers were discussed, which were suggested to include the Mayor, School superintendent, County transportation manager, and speakers on NE Venice development and the shopping center.

Team updates: **Roger Effron** lead the discussion, and the HRT is headed by Mary Rau Foster, website advisor is Joe Santucci, and flag placement needs a leader. Also discussed was an update on the follow-up meetings by the four teams from our retreat.

Board member comments: **Sharon George** asked about Venmo, not Paypal for dues payments. She'll check with Joe Santucci. **Taras Kowalczyn** said the County transportation manager has been sending him email updates on the road widening project.

Next Meeting: The next board meeting will be held on Monday, January 8, 2024 at 3:45pm at the River Club.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:00pm.

Respectfully submitted by Tom Jones, Secretary