

**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 January 8, 2024**

**Board Members in attendance:**

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

**Guests present:** There were 7 residents attending in person and 6 joining via Zoom.

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

**Secretary's report:** The minutes from the December 11, 2023 meeting were unanimously approved.

**Public Comment:** None

**Treasurer's report:** Fred Baughman reported that our total operating cash is \$96,343 with \$37,865 of that in a landscape buffering reserve, per the Ajax agreement. Total income in 2023 was \$23,632 and expenses last year were \$25,160.

**Board member replacement:** A committee of Sharon George, Joe Browne, and Tom Jones interviewed two candidates for the board and spoke very highly of both. Sharon nominated Chip Melvin for a board seat and also to serve as treasurer to replace Fred Baughman. Joe nominated Terry Leary to fulfil Michelle Trent's unexpired term. Each was approved by a unanimous vote.

**Membership:** Sharon George said there were 131 new residents in 2022-23 and 44 are new members. She said she has changed the Association's address to her residence and she's in the process of cleaning up the data on Constant Contact and The Wall. The new member event is scheduled for Feb. 13.

**Website:** Joe Browne said web visits are down to a steady level but still up about double from a comparable period in summer 2023, showing good success at generating interest in the site. Board member bios are being updated.

**External Affairs:** **Joe Browne** gave an update on the Venice water booster station, which was authorized 3 years ago and delayed for 2, and it's now about 2 years away. The City is installing a water pipeline from Laurel Road to the pump site north of VGRC. They have a partial easement on the perimeter boundary road, which is owned by the Venetian POA, for the route. Joe said he is receiving monthly updates from the City on this project.

**Laurel Road widening:** **Taras Kowalczyn** said the County transportation manager is sending him regular updates and the project is still in the design stage. There will be a public meeting when the design is ready.

**Seminar debrief:** **Mark Faford** said the December seminar on common sense personal safety was well attended. Bike-O-Rama has been postponed due to expected bad weather and will be rescheduled. Two other seminars are planned in January.

**Town Hall meeting:** **Roger Effron** said speakers for this event on March 18 will be contacted, including representatives from the Venetian golf club, the POA, CDD, and SMH-Venice. A sound company has been hired and the start time has been moved up to 5pm.

**Annual Association meeting:** **Tom Jones** said a comparable date to last year's meeting would be Monday, April 8 at 4:30pm. That was agreeable by consensus to the board members. Our monthly board meeting would be held at 3:30pm that day and the officer's election board meeting would be held immediately following the general meeting.

**Board member comments:** **Joe Browne** asked about the monthly board meeting day and start time. **Mark Faford** said he would check the River Club calendar and survey the board for preferences. **Roger Effron** said he spoke at the VCDD meeting earlier today. He complimented the board on what they do and thanked them for their cooperation with the VGRCCA. He encouraged collaboration of all 3 of our boards. **Sharon George** said she has circulated an updated spreadsheet of members.

**Next Meeting:** The next board meeting will be held on Monday, February 12, 2024 at 3:45pm at the River Club.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 4:49pm.

Respectfully submitted by Tom Jones, Secretary