

**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 July 15, 2024**

Board Members attending:

Mark Faford – Co-president
Tom Jones – Co-president
Chip Melvin – Treasurer (present via Zoom)
Sharon George – Membership chair
Dr. Steve Hefler
Joe Browne
Roger Effron
Terry Leary
Taras Kowalczyk (present via Zoom)

John Manoush (Secretary) was unable to attend

Guests present: There were 9 residents attending in person and 11 joined via Zoom.

Call to Order: **Mark Faford** called the meeting to order at 3:30pm

Secretary’s report: The minutes (version 2) from the June 17, 2024 meeting were unanimously approved.

Public Comment: One resident commented on last week’s POA board meeting.

Treasurer’s report: **Chip Melvin** reported that our cash balance is \$53,619, and this includes the refund by the POA for the traffic study expense. He is projecting that even with our deferred income spread out over the entire year, we would have a net loss of \$4,228 for 2024.

Membership: **Sharon George** reported that our membership is 872 (63%) and since January of 2022, 155 Venetian homes have had a resident buy into or leave the community. She is planning additional new resident gatherings in upcoming months, though probably on a smaller scale.

Seminar planning: **Mark Faford, along with Steve Hefler and Terry Leary)** reviewed our schedule beginning this fall, with 18 events planned. It begins with the Candidate Forum on Oct. 7, where there will be a morning session for the City Council candidates and an afternoon session for the VCDD candidates. There was a discussion on a possible “End of life Doula” program and Steve will research it.

External Affairs: **Taras Kowalczyn** said he is expecting an update soon from the County on the Laurel Road widening schedule and design release date. There was discussion on the City Council meeting last week where one Council member said that VG&RC residents were opposed to the road widening. The Council voted 6-1 to approve \$8 million for the project.

Website: **Joe Browne** said June was a very active month, primarily due to the local media articles featured on the site. Pages on the Hurricane Response Team and FAQs are also getting a lot of traffic.

Old Business: **Mark Faford** discussed our recent strategic planning session where several long term issues were reviewed under the categories of Issues, Strengths, Weaknesses, and Opportunities. The 3 committees will follow up with reports. **Steve Hefler** said he has talked to an insurance agent who is a Venetian resident and has assisted his sub-association with liability insurance. This agent estimated we could save around \$2,500 with revamped umbrella liability coverage. Our current policy runs through early next year.

New Business: **Chip Melvin** led a discussion on an expense reduction plan, focusing on insurance costs, licensing agreements, and event expenses (Shredfest/Junkfest and the Town Hall meeting are the top two). The finance committee of Chip, Taras, Mark and Joe will research and report. **Joe Browne (along with Roger and Terry)** led a discussion on possible advertising and sponsorship options. Roger said we have had sponsors for *Parcels* in the past. There was a motion and unanimous vote to begin selling a sponsorship banner beginning with the August *Parcels* at a monthly charge of \$99. There will be restrictions on who can sponsor and Roger will coordinate that with backup from the Co-presidents.

Board Member Comments: There were several comments:

- pleased to have residents attending our meetings
- compliments and thanks to John Manoush for facilitating our strategic planning session
- Low turnout for the last Laurel Road cleanup, so more volunteers are needed
- Good support along with Terry's leadership for this month's flag placement
- Wall of Something – old listings can be deleted with Sharon's discretion

Next Meeting: Our next meeting is on Monday, August 12 or 19 at 3:30pm at the River Club.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:57pm..

Respectfully submitted by Tom Jones, acting Secretary