

**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 9, 2025**

**Board Members attending:**

Mark Faford – Co-president  
Tom Jones – Co-president  
Sharon George – Membership Chair  
Joe Browne  
Roger Effron  
Terry Leary  
Dr. Steve Hefler  
Darlene Schimberg

**Attending via Zoom**

Taras Kowalczyn – Exec VP  
Chip Melvin – Treasurer

**Unable to attend:**

John Manoush – Secretary

**Guests present:** There were 8 residents attending in person, including John DiPierro representing the POA, Rich Goodman of the VCDD, and Mary Rau Foster, leader of our HRT (Hurricane Response Team). There were 2-4 residents on Zoom at various times.

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**Call to Order:** Mark called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

**Comment from VCDD and POA liaisons:** Rich (VCDD) said there will be some upcoming disruptions at the River Club, which may affect our meetings, with exterior painting and parking lot paving. John (POA) reported that the POA has an updated plan for rule compliance and enforcement. He also said he is chairing an informal meeting of the VGRC sub-association presidents and a CA representative will speak at it.

**Secretary's report:** The May minutes were unanimously approved.

**Public Comment:** None

**HRT update:** Mary Rau Foster reported that the HRT Facebook page has been launched and there are 249 registered users so far. She managed a table at the May 30 hurricane expo in Venice, and the June 2 VGRC resident meeting on hurricane preparation was well attended. There are 51 members of the HRT who will participate in a training session later this month.

**Treasurer report:** Chip gave the financial report, and through May we are running a negative \$5,100 for this year. Our total assets are \$65,385. He has not received an invoice from the City for the dumpster at Junkfest. There was a discussion on donations and sponsorship, which the revenue team will review. There was also a discussion on the interest rate for our cash account, and Chip will look into options to take advantage of higher rates, which may mean going elsewhere than at our current bank, First Horizon. Other objectives would be on-line deposits and ability of one signatory to handle banking changes.

**Membership Report:** Sharon reported that current membership stands at 829, which is a 14% drop from our maximum of 962 in Dec 2022. The board had a discussion on how to grow our membership, and the membership committee will present a report at the July meeting.

**Seminar planning:** Mark said the seminar committee has met twice and is filling the calendar for this coming season. The confirmed events are Sharp-fest, Bike-O-Rama, CPR training, Shredfest-Junkfest, and Medicare 101. There was a discussion on several proposed topics. For the Town Hall meeting, suggestions for cost savings ranged from holding it every other year instead of annually, using the River Club and having attendees make reservations, using a less costly audio system, and posting a video on our website to reach those who couldn't attend.

**External Affairs:** **Tom** reported that a development on Knights Trail at Rustic Rd has filed a site development plan calling for 200 multi-family units. This is a continued expansion of the number of dwelling units in NE Venice which are part of a multi-family building development. He noted that the new NE Venice park construction is well underway, and the estimated completion date is next spring. **Taras** said there is nothing to report from the VGRC group regarding a traffic light at our entry. **Joe** said the Venice water booster station to the north of VGRC will be operational at the end of this month.

**Website:** **Joe** said that website viewing trends are up and about 25% of the views are to the hurricane corner.

**Old Business:** **Mark** said the proposed By-Law changes have received some input and asked for everyone to send suggestions to John.

**New Business:** **Terry** said that flags for Independence Day will go out on Thursday, July 3 at 8:30am.

**Board Member Comments:** **Sharon** said the 2025 community directory is finished and ready to be distributed by the front desk at the River Club. **Roger** complimented Mark for his assistance in the writing of *Parcels*. **Tom** said the POA, VCDD, and CA collaborative group has met twice and had informal discussions on a range of VGRC issues with no action proposed.

**Next Meeting:** Our next meeting is on **Monday, July 21, 2025** at 10:00 a.m. at the River Club.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 12:05pm.

Respectfully submitted by Tom Jones, acting secretary