

**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 March 16, 2026**

Board Members attending:

Mark Faford – Co-President
Tom Jones – Co-President
Salli Duncan – Treasurer
John Manoush – Secretary
Sharon George – Membership Chair
Dr. Steve Hefler
Joe Browne
Roger Effron
Darlene Schimberg
Terry Leary

Attending *via* Zoom

Taras Kowalczyn - Exec. VP

Guests present: There were no resident guests attending in person. There was one resident on Zoom.

Call to Order: **Mark** called the meeting to order at 10:07 a.m. The board had assembled at 9:30 for Community Forum planning, which is not reported in these minutes.

Comments from POA Liaison: None

Public Comment: None

Seminars: **Mark** reviewed recent past seminars, highlighting Shredfest/Junkfest and announcing the date of Feb. 27 for next year's. Slightly over \$1,300 in donations was collected by the Bucket Boys. It was estimated that residents collectively saved \$12,000 in shredding costs alone compared to paying by the pound, and no doubt much more for the "junk" disposal. Darlene mentioned that the River Club has asked that we not allow seminar presenters to bring in food, but to coordinate with the RC if refreshments are needed. A 2nd SharPfest is planned for this Saturday, with registrations quickly filled. Terry announced that a planned NFL coach seminar has been postponed from March 31 to June 16.

External Affairs: **Joe** informed us that the water booster station has been found lacking in effectiveness, with the cause under investigation.

2026 Community Forum: Details of preparation and board assignments were covered in the 9:30 am pre-meeting. Darlene and the planning team had provided a detailed "script" of the agenda that included assignments and needs. She raised a question about the "e-blast" issued this morning promoting the Forum, in that it lacked Zoom instructions or a Zoom link, as had the more detailed March 9 announcement. We agreed this was an oversight and that John would provide Joe the Zoom information for posting on our home page this afternoon in case some residents looked there for instructions.

Treasurer's report: **Salli** reported a cash position of \$77K and a YTD net profit through February of approximately \$4K. Although interest income is currently very low, she intends to investigate a 2nd CD purchase (\$40K was placed in a CD in November). After persistent effort, she achieved a 22% reduction in our D&O insurance after convincing our carrier that the CA was not an HOA representing every Venetian resident. Despite this reduction, overall insurance cost is up by 17% (30% for general liability and 80% for umbrella).

Secretary's report: The previously distributed minutes for February 16 were unanimously approved.

Web / YouTube report: **Joe** reported another very active month, although not above the exceptional activity of the previous month. The most visited web page was ShredFest.

Membership Report: Sharon reported a membership level of 61.7% --- 1.7% ahead of same month prior year. Of new residents, she counts a 41% membership. We discussed options for an orientation meeting and agreed it should be in April. Sharon will work on selecting a date and planning the content. There was discussion about the Community Directory and Sharon's significant role in producing it.

Annual Meeting: Tom requested three board volunteers for a nominating committee from among the 7 who are not up for election this year. Tom, Sharon and Darlene were selected. The committee will contact each of the 4 board members with expiring terms to determine if they want to run. John brought up the need for a website manager to apprentice to Joe; however, we will not have a board opening if all current members choose to run, and we cannot exceed the current 11 board members unless we change our bylaws. Tom will manage sending out announcements with proxies prior to the annual meeting to ensure we have the 10% quorum. There was discussion of the role of Executive VP vs the office of President-Elect established in the 2025 revision of our bylaws. See last item for planned meeting time.

Disclaimer statement (for donations): John reported on work he and Salli have done to develop a policy that will ensure the CA remains in compliance with FL law regarding charitable donations. The state specifies a 41-word statement on solicitations, whether in printed form or digital. There was a lack of agreement on whether the membership form should include this (it would require a complete redesign of the already crowded form). This will be studied. Sharon noted that she emails this form to residents at times, though it is rarely, if ever, distributed in printed form. In the interest of time, John suggested he send the policy to all board members for approval. Following this, he will draft an amendment of our bylaws to update the secretary description to include compliance with the FL law.

Succession Planning Status: Joe recently emailed an update of the succession planning spreadsheet originally developed by Fred Baughman at our 2023 retreat. Joe has updated his web management position under "communication" but to date no others have updated theirs. Mark asked all board members to review their areas and provide updates to Joe, who will compile them on the chart.

Retreat Planning: John had previously contacted board members to find a suitable date. We had tentatively chosen the afternoon of May 12, but Joe would be unable to attend. After discussion, we were able to agree on the morning of May 12 from 8:30 to 12:30. Taras will attend via Zoom. Darlene has volunteered to help John with logistics and planning [Tom later secured use of the fire station conference room from the city].

Board Member Comments: Mark covered a few more details regarding setup and assignments for this afternoon's Forum. John mentioned that the spare projector bulb was now on hand and that he would install it shortly. He also reviewed a monthly summary of the first 7 months of the YDM program that he had distributed to the board. His observations are: 1) an excellent response to the kickoff in September, and 2) a much milder but consistent stream of contributions in following months. It has been difficult to correlate contributions with specific events such as *Parcels* articles about YDM or particular seminars or events. He recommended that a "YDM drive" of some type be planned for once or twice per year to remind residents of the importance of donations to the success of the CA. Several board members supported the use of a credit card device that would allow us to accept noncash donations at events. Sharon will look into options with PayPal, since we already pay them a monthly fee. Roger complimented Sharon on her outstanding work maintaining the "Reach Out" program (started after our 2024 Retreat) that involves sending cards to residents following losses or other major life events.

Next Meeting: Our next regular board meeting is on **Monday, April 20, 2026** at the River Club at 10:00 a.m. The **annual meeting** will be at 4:00 p.m. followed by a short board meeting for appointment of officers.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by John Manoush, secretary