

**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 April 20, 2026**

Board Members attending:

Mark Faford – Co-President
Tom Jones – Co-President
Salli Duncan – Treasurer
Taras Kowalczyk - Exec. VP
John Manoush – Secretary
Sharon George – Membership Chair
Joe Browne
Roger Effron
Darlene Schimberg
Terry Leary

Unable to Attend

Dr. Steve Hefler

Guests present: There were two resident guests attending in person. There were no attendees on Zoom.

Call to Order: **Mark** called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Comments from POA Liaison: Barbara Silkworth thanked John for recently providing the POA with recommendations for replacing their failed Owl device, as well as lending the CA's. She reported that there have been many irrigation violations, alerted us that a warning would be issued shortly and stated that enforcement would be increased. She asked the CA board to help in this effort by spreading the word. There are issues with both irrigation water and municipal (potable) water, for which we are in a "phase 3" shortage, meaning that the city prescribes limited periods for watering and car washing. The city info. is already on our website home page. Roger offered to place an article about water restrictions in the May *Parcels*. Barbara also informed us that our ACS (architectural standards) have recently been revised to prohibit recreational use of drones. New color palette colors are available.

Public Comment: None

External Affairs: **Tom** reported there were no significant new developments, though he will soon distribute some updates from Roger Clark. Roger Effron reported that the opening of the Northeast Park will likely be early June. The CA will need to determine just what will be expected as "adopters" of the park. Tom plans to schedule a Laurel Rd cleanup for May. Taras reported that all parcels required for the Laurel Road widening have been acquired and that bids will soon go out for construction. Budget concerns have arisen due to unexpectedly high costs for asphalt. No crosswalk is planned for the Veneto Rd intersection, but there will be a light at Jacaranda. The local speed limit may be reduced from 45 to 35 on a portion of the road as it gets closer to the proposed shopping center.

Seminars: **Mark** mentioned the recent Community Forum and Joe recapped the recent visit to the water booster plant. Another visit is planned soon. The plant will not significantly increase average water pressure, but will keep it more consistent. There is a planned pressure reduction overnight as tanks are refilled. Joe has placed a full report of the visit on our website. The rescheduled SharPfest was held this past Saturday with a full schedule. Tim Schimberg helped out the entire time. The only other scheduled event is the June 16 conversation with NFL coach and resident, Chris Tabor. The seminars team will soon begin planning for next season's events, some of which are already scheduled. A candidate forum for City Council and CDD positions will be held, most likely in early October. We tentatively plan to have the forum "Zoomed" and recorded by an outside firm.

Treasurer's report: Salli reported a cash position of \$65K as of end of March (all figures are rounded). Revenues were \$10.4K and expenses \$7.5K, resulting in a YTD profit of \$2.9K compared to a loss of \$2.8K at the same point in 2025. She has investigated what the added insurance cost would be to add our officers to our general liability policy (we already have separate D&O). Following a question from John, she clarified that the account, "meeting expense" is only for our Zoom membership account, while "event expenses" would include things like Shredfest and the Forum.

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

Web / YouTube report: Joe reported another good month of website activity, amounting to a 30% increase in views compared to March of 2025. He pursued an idea suggested by Roger to have an online poll for "best pizza" – a concept that could increase our website traffic and also be of continuing value for polling residents on various questions. Unfortunately, it was not easily achieved. Joe Santucci has been involved and has also run into initial difficulties. All agreed the goal was worthwhile and we will continue to pursue it.

Membership Report: Sharon reported a membership level of 62.4% compared to 60.7% for April of 2025. Nearly 40% of new owners have become members. She has been concentrating on appealing to new owners and existing owners whose membership has recently expired or is about to expire. Sharon will study the benefit of holding another orientation meeting, even though summer attendance may be low. Small groups will be considered. She recommended we develop outreach for realtors. Tom mentioned that a flyer promoting The Venetian has been developed jointly by the POA, CDD and CA and might be used for such publicity. A membership committee meeting is planned for May 8.

Community Forum Critique: Mark asked how the board liked the use of the River Club, the 4:30 time, 75-minute duration and overall content. All comments were positive except for the quality of audio on Zoom. John proposed that he and Dick Foster do a "dry run" at the next large event (currently the candidate forum), while having an outside audio service stream and record the session. The audiovisual cost has been approximately \$1,200 for past Town Halls. If we are able to overcome our own audio problems, we can do our own streaming/recording for savings at future events. Roger felt we needed to address the matter of audience questions (not allowed at the recent Forum), weighing the cost in time and effort against the positive of increased engagement. Roger complimented Mark and the team on the excellent overall organization. It was noteworthy that about 75 people watched the Forum on Zoom and 145 have watched the YouTube video (this counts those who have previously attended or watched twice). Overall, a positive impression of the 2026 Forum.

Website Management: Joe Browne recently announced intention to retire from the CA as of May 1 and that this will be his final board meeting. All acknowledged that this will be a major loss to our organization, and expressed appreciation for the many improvements Joe has made to our website and to the CA in general. The CA sent out an email to all residents last week asking residents with interest and requisite skills to apply for the soon-to-be open position. John will assume management of the website after May 1 and until a new manager is trained. Joe has generously offered to be available to answer questions during the transition. Big shoes to fill indeed. John volunteered to be the point person in recruiting a new web manager, with Tom as backup. We agreed it was preferable for our web manager to be a board member rather than an outside consultant, although both options will be considered. There will be a going-away gathering in Joe's honor this Wednesday at Back Porch Brewing.

Annual Meeting Preparation: Tom led us through a brief review of this afternoon's planned meeting. We did not provide for carrying this meeting on Zoom. The reelection of 4 current board members is expected by acclamation. Officers will provide reports of key issues and questions from residents will be entertained. A board meeting will follow the annual in order to elect officers.

Succession Planning Status: Mark recommended that all board members review the spreadsheet that Joe has maintained and contribute information for their positions if needed. John stressed the fact that the succession spreadsheet is incomplete and that board members should review and update their

responsibilities where needed. Although some time has been built into the end of the May retreat meeting for this topic, he felt that most or all of the work should be done prior to that so as not to take time away from new ideas. This led to some discussion of whether written expectations of all key CA roles, including board member “at large”, should be documented. Taras and Tom felt that strict position descriptions might reduce creativity, while John and Darlene felt that such descriptions were important to provide continuity and structure. Roger agreed to work with John to provide some recommendations on this.

Retreat Planning: John had recently distributed a revised agenda for the May 12, 4-hour session. There were no questions or concerns.

Board Member Comments: Joe said he has enjoyed his experience as a CA board member and expressed thanks for the good working relationship he has enjoyed with all of us. Darlene and Mark recently visited the Laurel Civic Association and were impressed with the good work done there. They have educational development programs for children in need as well as for older adults. They seek volunteers. More investigation will be needed to see if there is a fit for the CA to work with them. Terry was also familiar with the Laurel Civic. Taras mentioned that Walmart has a charitable fund that might possibly support our HRT, and will look into this. Roger recalled a volunteer fair that the CA sponsored a few years ago, and recommended we consider it again, although more promotion will be needed to improve participation. Roger also forwarded the April *Parcels* to Fifth Third Bank’s marketing director, who received it positively.

Next Meeting: Our next regular board meeting is on **Monday, May 18, 2026** at the River Club at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 11:59 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by John Manoush, secretary