

Joani Leeds, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Elect, opened the meeting at 1:16 as Liz Mazzu was out ill

1. General Business:
  - a. Pledge of Allegiance
  - b. Reading of the Collect by Kathy Price, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, due to high winds
  - c. Approval of April Minutes:
    - i. Motion: Myrna
    - ii. Second: Ellie
    - iii. All approved
  - d. Gentle Reminder- As of June 1 if a member's dues are not paid, her name will be removed from membership list.
2. Fundraising: Tricia Cook, Publicity Chairman:
  - a. 2021 Fundraising Recipient:
    - i. Over five thousand dollars were raised for the Venice Youth Symphony.
    - ii. One of the ways in which the club was able to raise so much was through the matching funds program of the Community Foundation of Sarasota
    - iii. The symphony held a free spring concert. Several members were able to attend and the concert was wonderful.
    - iv. The check will be presented to the Symphony in 2 weeks.
  - b. Legacy Award for Louella Albee, our founder
    - i. The Venice Historic Society approached Tricia when they selected Louella for the award.
    - ii. During the City Council meeting on May 10<sup>th</sup>, Venice Mayor Feinsod presented a proclamation about Louella Albee and gave it to The Club. Joani received the proclamation, thanked the Mayor and the City, and reminded all that the club will be celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday in 2026.
    - iii. The proclamation included much information about Louella including her many donations to the City of Venice and the community at large.
    - iv. Was attended by about a dozen members wearing their club shirts
3. Activities: Maria Ruetz, Coordinator and Marti Rummels, Coordinator:
  - a. Please cancel if you can't attend an activity with as much notice as possible. As an example, at the Sip and Shop, 25 members signed up but only 11 attended.
  - b. Activity-interest survey. The one activity upon which all members agree is that they want to go out to eat and to stay local
  - c. Next activity will be Tea at Flynn's noon, May 18th.
    - i. Pay there.
    - ii. Tea, scones and dainties will be served.
    - iii. Reminder emails were sent 19 individuals. Some members did not remember receiving the notes so the reminders will be resent
  - d. Finns for after meeting - canceled
4. Induction of Officer: Lorraine Finizio, Director at Large:
  - a. Joani was inducted as First Vice President
5. Membership: Joani, Lorraine and Kathy
  - a. New Members: Jodie Cooper, Leslie McIntosh (not here), Patricia Berube (not here), and Marchia Carcinelli-Minor

- b. Shirts are in for those who ordered. If there is a “dollar sign” on your name tag, please see Joani as it means the shirt needs to be paid
- 6. Finance – Kathy (Kathy Moller was absent at that time)
  - a. Venice Area Beautification, Inc. (VABI) will be our 2022 fundraising recipient if the club agrees.
  - b. Kathy P presented a general overview of VABI with particular emphasis on the Urban Forest which the club toured last year. Both phase I and phase II have been considerably enlarged since our tour.
  - c. At September VNWC meeting, Greg Vine, VABI Board Member, and another VABI board member will present to the club
  - d. Motion made that VABI will be the VNWC 2022 Fundraising Recipient: Tricia
  - e. Second: Kathy P
  - f. All Approve
- 7. Outreach Linda Ecker, Outreach Coordinator
  - a. There are outreach categories listed on the VNWC website. Please peruse them and find out more information about each of the specific organizations. Members are encouraged to individually support their chosen organization without waiting for the Club.
  - b. For Memorial Day, help place flags at the National Cemetery on Clark Road. The event will be held at 8 am on the Saturday before Memorial Day, May 28<sup>th</sup>.
- 8. Lunch and fun activity – Kathy P
  - a. A picnic lunch was served. All members enjoyed the food – especially the cupcakes – and had plenty to eat.
  - b. Fun activity was a “fill in the blank” of strange laws. Marti won
- 9. Membership (continued as Patricia was able to join the meeting later) Kathy and Joani:
  - a. Induction of new member: Patricia Berube
- 10. Scholarship: Tricia
  - a. The club has awarded scholarships to four deserving students from Venice High School:
    - i. Academic-Sophia Burns, Shannon Dowdy;
    - ii. Technical- Maylee Lanhan, Kamryn Brown
  - b. Two of the scholarship winners were able to join us after lunch and share their stories with us:
    - i. Shanom Dowdy – already has earned an Associate of Arts degree. Although considered a student at VHS, she has actually attended college for the past 2 years. She found it to be extremely useful as she was surrounded by a more mature student body. She will go to Gainesville and major in Biomedical Engineering;
    - ii. Maylee Lanham – will apply to attend State College of Florida to become a Dental Hygienist. She has been able to complete all of her prerequisites by finishing her high school classes last year.
    - iii. Although they were not in attendance, we learned that Sophia Burns will go to University of Florida and Kamryn Brown will go to Tallahassee Community to study Pre-Law

- iv. The club is very proud of these women and wishes them all great success in their future endeavors
- 11. Special “guests”: a gopher tortoise, a baby, and unfortunately a plethora of love bugs. The baby was immediately surrounded by all the grandmothers in the group. Kathy P had the special touch and was able to soothe the little one to allow the scholarship presentations to commence.
- 12. Adjournment: at 1:45 by Joani
  - a. Motion: Marnie
  - b. Second: Lorraine
  - c. All approve

Respectfully submitted: Vicki Hazle, Secretary