

1. Meeting called to order at 2:09
  2. Kathy Price - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President, Programs
    - a. Introduce Venice Area Beautification, Inc. (VABI) presentation. VABI is this year's VNWC fund-raising recipient
    - b. Our speaker, Phil Ellis
      - i. VABI 32+ years
        1. VABI.org
        2. Veniceurbanforest.com
      - ii. Completely volunteer
      - iii. 17-member board and 8 standing committees
        1. Venice In Bloom: Downtown Flower Baskets
        2. Keep Venice Beautiful: Landscaping removing invasives and weeds
        3. Public Art (Murals)
        4. Monty Adams Arboretum
        5. Holiday Tree Lighting
        6. Holiday Boat Bash Party
        7. Venice Urban Forest
          - a. Started in March of 2018; hoping to open to the public by end of 2022
          - b. has cost millions of dollars to plant native-only 3000+ trees, 5000+ understory plants to support local fauna
          - c. 12 species of birds about 200 individuals now have 85 species with thousands of individuals. Hoping to get a scrub jay family to stay and raise their family
          - d. Fund Raising Needs: Phase III - Originally budgeted \$650K but have had to spend \$130K to remove Brazilian Peppers and massive amounts of debris.
      8. Governance
      - iv. Not a political organization
      - c. Pledge of Allegiance
      - d. Collect
3. Liz Mazzu – President via FB Messenger
  - a. Welcome to the first meeting of the season
  - b. Liz's message regarding needing to remain isolated due to her treatments
  - c. Acknowledge guest(s) by raise of hand(s): Lyn Gnaegy
  - d. Newsletter sent September 1, 2022 If you did not receive it or the invitation to today's meeting, tell a board member
4. Joan Brinton- 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Membership
  - a. New members:
    - i. Pattie Mattern - Inducted
    - ii. Christine Mulvihill (absent)
5. Kathy Moller – Treasurer (absent)

- a. Treasurer's Report is in Newsletter<sup>1</sup>
  - 6. Laura Jo- Fundraising and Special events
    - a. Laura introduced her committee members:
      - i. Jane Hallberg
      - ii. Joan Brinton
      - iii. Kathy Moller
      - iv. Kathy Price
      - v. Linda Ecker
      - vi. Lisa Ketner
      - vii. Lorraine Finizio
      - viii. Myrna Goldbloom
    - b. Fox Lea Farms – March 10, 2023
    - c. Fashion Showcase
      - i. Nov 17 at Hotel Venezia
      - ii. Dessert Buffet:
        - 1. Discussion around:
          - a. Some members felt eating during a show is inappropriate as oftentimes guests want to handle a garment and the clothes cannot get stained. Handling the clothes would be a risk if guests were eating.
          - b. Lunch vs. only Desserts
            - i. People will be expecting lunch if held around noon or 1pm. Laura said it will be later – approximately 2pm or 3pm
            - ii. There will be cheese and fruit on the buffet if some guests are expecting heartier fare and the desserts will be elaborate not just cookies: tiramisu, shooters, etc.
              - 1. Informal vote much more in favor of Dessert.
      - iii. There will be guest bags, coupons/swag from shops
      - iv. \$45 ticket (our cost \$22). Hoping for 160 guests
      - v. 8 Local Shops supplying the clothes & some PR
      - vi. VNWC will supply everything else. We need:
        - 1. Models
        - 2. Dressers
        - 3. Ticket takers
        - 4. Decorators
      - vii. Probably someone from VABI as MC
      - viii. Please sign up to volunteer
    - d. Dance party. It will be held in mid-winter: Details to come
    - e. There is potential to have a Game Night in conjunction with VNWC Activities
7. Kathy P

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<sup>1</sup> Although stated in the meeting that Treasurer's Reports are in the newsletter, in actuality, Treasurer's Reports are available on the club website, <https://www.venice-nokomiswomansclub.org/welcome-members>

- a. October: **2PM** at the Library. Danielle Hughs from Pet Advocates Working in the Suncoast (PAWS). PAWS provides therapy dogs to children after abuse
- b. November: 1PM **at the Police Department on Venice Avenue** Caitlin Joyner with Venice High School Rotary Futures: how we work with the Rotarians to select our scholarship recipients
8. Approve minutes from May meeting
  - a. Motion to approve: Kathy P
  - b. Second: Mynra
  - c. All approve
9. Linda Ecker- Outreach
  - a. Opportunities for Volunteering
    - i. One time opportunities such as Salvation Army Christmas Angels, Arboretum Tree Lighting
    - ii. There are also ongoing opportunities
10. Marti Runnels-Activity coordinators- (Maria Ruetz absent)
  - a. Future Activities
    - i. Louella Albee Presentation by the Venice Area Historical Society: October 18 at 7:30 PM at the Unitarian Universalist Church In Venice
    - ii. Tour of the Train Depot Train Car September 24
    - iii. Tuesdays with Benny, Venice Theater Nov 1
  - b. Sign-up sheets in back of room. Check them out
  - c. Any ideas please contact Marti and/or Maria
11. Lorraine Finizio – Director at Large
  - a. Pass
12. Adjourn at 3:43
  - a. Motion to Approve: Joan Brinton
  - b. Second: Cathie Kelty
  - c. All Approve