

1. Meeting called to order at 1:05 pm
2. President, Liz Mazzu-
 - a. Welcomed members and guests.
 - b. Show of hands for happy hour after today's meeting. Will be at Abby's.
 - c. Pledge of Allegiance
 - d. The Collect
 - e. 2nd Vice President Kathy Price's term on the Board will be up the end of March. We need a member to take the position going forward. Kathy has organized the speakers and programs through May. She also has many options for next year.
3. 2nd Vice President, Kathy Price, introduced Grace Stelmashenko, the speaker from Selah Freedom
 - a. Selah Freedom is an anti-human trafficking non-profit based in Florida and the Midwest focused on bringing freedom to the exploited.
 - b. Their programs focus on Awareness, Prevention, Outreach, Residential facility, Consulting
 - c. Provide trauma resolution therapy, medical and legal aid, personalized education plan, career mentoring and job placement, and life skills.
 - d. Phone number 888-373-7888 to contact if see something questionable
 - e. Need volunteers to help
4. 1st Vice President, Joan Brinton
 - a. Acknowledged guests
 - i. Gail Mandel
 - ii. Pam Hindman
 - iii. Vickie Hall (chose to not be acknowledged)
 - b. Inducted new members
 - i. Leslie McIntosh
 - ii. Jennifer Berlin
 - iii. Kathy Pereira
5. 2nd Vice President, Kathy Price, gave information on upcoming meetings
 - a. March will be at the Venice Police Department Community Room. Speaker will be Danielle Hughes on therapy dogs
 - b. April speaker will be Barbara Field on preserving memories
 - c. May will be annual picnic at Caspersen Beach
6. Treasurer, Kathy Moller
 - a. Membership dues have changed from \$30 to \$35
 - b. Profit from Fashion Showcase fundraiser for Urban Forest is about \$7500
7. Director of Fundraising, Laura Jo
 - a. Fashion Showcase fundraiser for Urban Forest was a great success
 - b. Caribbean Nights fundraiser
 - i. Will be February 28 at the American Legion Hall
 - ii. Need volunteers for 50/50 ticket sales
 - iii. Need items for raffle baskets

- c. Greg Vines from VABI talked about the Scrub Jays needing a marshy area in the Urban Forest to attract them to live there. Possibly we could make this our focus for the funds we are raising for them.
- 8. Public Relations, Tricia Cook
 - a. Fox Lea
 - i. Will be March 10th, 2 events 3:30 and 6:30
 - ii. Need members to man the gates, direct parking of cars
 - iii. Linda Ecker is chairperson over 50/50 raffle
 - iv. Wear long pants, closed toe shoes, bug spray, visor, bring chairs, cooler, sweater
- 9. Social Activities, Marti Runnels
 - a. Wine Bingo and Snook Haven events, all had a good time
 - b. Upcoming events
 - i. Methodist Church on the Island Music Mondays
 - ii. Spotlight Theater
- 10. Community Outreach, Linda Ecker
 - a. Volunteer suggestions are on our website, such as Venice Wildlife, food pantries, Memorial Day flags at Sarasota Veterans Cemetery
- 11. Director at Large, Lorraine Finizio
 - a. Liz thanked Lorraine and the other volunteers for participating in the Chamber of Commerce event for non-profits
- 12. A club photo was taken by our club photographer, Janet Knudsen
- 13. Adjourn at 2:40 PM
 - a. Motion - Lorraine
 - b. Second – Kathy P
 - c. All approve

Notes taken by by Joan Brinton, 1st VP Membership, as Vicki Hazle, Secretary, was absent