

1. Meeting called to order at 1:12 PM
2. Liz Mazzu - President
  - a. Welcome
  - b. Pledge
  - c. Collect
  - d. Welcome Guests: no guests
  - e. Fox Lea Farms-Thank you to Tricia and the volunteers
  - f. Open positions
    - i. Social Activities Chairpersons-Marti Runnels and Maria Ruetz have resigned. Thank you for your service and efforts on behalf of the VNWC. Please see a Board member for more information on this opening as well as if you are interested.
    - ii. Opening Communications Chairperson-Possibly the website, Facebook etc. Ideal for someone with a tech background
  - g. Dues-past due: were due by April 1 Dues are \$35 per year
  - h. Letter from President of VABI
3. Joan Brinton – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Membership
  - a. Induct new member- Donna Soriente
  - b. Oath of office-Lorraine Finizio-2nd Vice President Programs/Hospitality-always willing and ready to help the club in any capacity
  - c. Carol Alexander-Director at Large
  - d. Thank you to Kathy Price who has served on the Board in Two offices. She held the Secretary position and has recently served as 2nd Vice President. She is not able to attend today's meeting, however, we thank Kathy for her dedication, service, and efforts on behalf of the club.
4. 2nd Vice President-Lorraine Finizio, Programs and Hospitality
  - a. May picnic-May 11, 2023 Caspersen
    - i. \$10pp including lunch
  - b. Speaker-Barbara Field 'Preserving Memories'
5. Laura Jo- Fundraising and Special Events
  - a. Current Year
    - i. Fox Lea Farms Total amount raised: \$13,360
    - ii. Two grants:
      1. Gulf Coast Community Foundation: \$6,900
      2. Community Foundation of Sarasota (our associate): \$2,200 – still in the requested stage
    - iii. Total amount raised for VABI: Need about \$20K for frog bog which is what VNWC has raised
  - b. Next Year:
    - i. Venice Art Center
      1. Summer Camp for Kids: need approximately \$6,000
      2. Poster Contest for Kids
        - a. Winner will be used as our art for our media
        - b. Auction art work

- ii. Fashion Show Committee –
    - 1. Need members
    - 2. First meeting May 17
  - iii. Trolley for Christmas in July
  - iv. Family Fun Day at VAC
  - v. Tree at Arboretum for Christmas
  - vi. Christmas Parade
  - vii. No Chalk Festival as they are moving out of Venice
- 6. Kathy Moller-Treasurer
  - a. Dues past due
- 7. Outreach chairperson-Linda Ecker
  - a. Please bring any old towels for Southwest Wild Animal Rescue
  - b. Cans of cat and dog food
  - c. Gold Rush has constant food bank
  - d. May 27<sup>th</sup> Sarasota National Cemetery needs volunteers to place flags on the graves. 800 volunteers need a screw driver and ruler
- 8. Director at Large-Carol Alexander
- 9. Vicki Hazle-Secretary
  - a. Motion to Approve March Meeting minutes: Joani
  - b. Second: Donna Soriente
  - c. All Approve
- 10. Announce 50/50 Raffle Winner: \$39
- 11. Barbara Field
  - a. Graduate of Barnard College
  - b. Has been a writer all her life: published articles and books
  - c. Panel of Venice Writers Festival
  - d. Memoir writing
    - i. Had a severe illness and realized her son didn't know who she is
    - ii. There are medical and emotional benefits to writing your story
    - iii. We don't tell our stories any more. Just sound bites
    - iv. It is hard to realize what are the important influences in your life
    - v. Culturally, women tend to think their stories aren't important and too often try to please
    - vi. Legacy for one's family
    - vii. Memoir is about a specific topic vs. autobiography is a whole life story
    - viii. Don't worry about the craft of writing, just tell the story
    - ix. Feedback can be important and needs to be specific
    - x. Show your warts
    - xi. [Writinglifestories.com](http://Writinglifestories.com) / [barbara@writinglifestories.com](mailto:barbara@writinglifestories.com)
- 12. Motion to Adjourn: Laura Jo
  - a. Second: Kathy Emann
  - b. Adjourn at 2:18