



VENICE-NOKOMIS GENERAL MEETING FEBRUARY 8, 2024

Venice Police Department Meeting Room

Meeting called to order at 2:15 by President, Liz Mazzu

- Welcome
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Collect
- Reminder that our January meeting was cancelled due to COVID
- Big article in *Venice Magazine* on The Club

Special Meeting

Votes on 2 Topics

There were 39 attendees at the Special Meeting

1. Articles of Incorporations
 - a. Carol Alexander: Difference(s) between Civic and Charitable Organizations
 - i. A little history: Ms. Albee started the club that started the Venice Library
 - ii. Established as a 501(c)(4) – meaning a not for profit that is not limited to a single focus for our fund raising efforts
 - iii. The articles of incorporation statement of purpose includes the word “civic” meaning citizens as a whole but not social needs
 - b. Joan Brinton: Clarification of Proposal
 - i. Not taking away civic causes
 - ii. Adding social causes
 - iii. Last articles of incorporation of 1975
 1. **Current text:**
 - a. ARTICLE II.
 - b. PURPOSES
 - c. The general nature of the objects and purposes of this corporation shall be to form an organization to promote and. Encourage civic welfare, to provide for the holding of lectures, recitals and readings of an intellectual nature and other entertainment of an intellectual and cultural nature, to collect, preserve and maintain books, maps and historical records in a library for the use of the general public, including school children.
 2. **Proposed text:**
 - a. The general nature of the objects and purposes of this corporation shall be to form an organization to promote and encourage civic and social welfare, to provide for the holding of lectures and other entertainment of an intellectual and cultural nature and to provide support for local nonprofit charitable organizations.
 - c. All approve



2. ByLaws

- a. Recommended changes
 - i. Previously voted to include former VHS high school graduates in 2nd, 3rd or 4th years of education as applicants for scholarships.
 - ii. Move language regarding Term of Board to Policies & Procedures
 - iii. Secretary, delete language: shall be the custodian of all records and documents of the organization
- b. All approve

Regular Meeting

1. Guest Speaker: Sgt. Sean Hammet of the Venice Police Department
 - His job is Community Outreach: Best job in the PD
 - He gives similar presentations to schools, hospitals, assisted living, HOA
 - His targets are homelessness, mental health issues, and substance abuse
 - To address these issues, the Venice PD has created and Outreach Team approach: Sgt. Hammet has a case manager to help get individuals connected to appropriate resources
 - Try to provide services to the homeless so they stay off the streets
 - There are no homeless shelters in Sarasota County. The Sherriff has 20 hot beds but the person has to go to Sarasota and go through case management
 - Tax season is here and this leads to an increase in scams
 - Elderly are biggest victims
 - Florida leads the country in scams
 - Scams going around
 - Social Security and IRS: they will not call you if there is an issue. They will send you a letter
 - Stay up to date on your credit report: especially check for different addresses
 - Geek Squad FPL are also common scams
 - Don't engage with people asking for money over the phone especially if they have an accent
 - If you see something, say something
 - Ended with 4 fun riddles and give aways
2. Liz Mazzu - President
 1. Slate of Officers for next year
 - i. President Joan Brinton
 - ii. 1st VP - Amy Jean Carlson
 - iii. 2nd VP - Bernie Nowicki
 - iv. Treasurer - Kathy Moller
 - v. Special Events & Fund Raising - Gail Mandel
 - vi. Secretary - Vicki Hazle
 - vii. Director-at-Large: Carol Alexander



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2. Venice Main Street is looking for volunteers for Shark Tooth Festival at Centennial Park
3. Vice President- Joan Brinton
 3. Induction of new members: Elizabeth Plocki
 4. Guests:
 - i. Nancy Plentz - Lorraine met her at the Chamber event
 - ii. Tammy Heller: next month's speaker from the Senior Friendship Center
 5. Announcement of December, January and February birthdays
 6. Members gave list of charitable organizations. The lists will go to the Finance committee. Finance committee will make recommendations to the Board
4. 2nd Vice President-Lorraine Finizio
 - a. Upcoming meetings:
 1. March – Senior Friendship Center
 2. April – Sarasota Rescue
 3. May – Caspersen Beach Pavilion for Picnic. There will be a nominal charge
5. Laura Jo – Special Events and Fund Raising
 4. Fashion Show
 - i. Only have 2 more tickets to sell out of 216
 - ii. Need 1 more dresser
 1. Go to several shops
 2. At the shops with the model, document the ensembles
 3. Assist the models dress and undress
 - iii. Silent Auction: has about \$5000 in merchandise
 - iv. Separate Silent Auction: 15 items made by the VAC artists specifically for the Fashion Show
 - v. Rehearsal - February 16th at 12:15 in Community Room in the Library
 - vi. Day of the Event: models and dressers arrive at hotel at 10 AM
 - vii. Rest of Volunteers: Tuesday at 6PM and Wednesday arrive at 12:15
6. Approve Minutes from December
 5. Cathy Nieman
 6. Patty
7. 50/50 Raffle
 7. \$90 Total
 8. Winner: Ferris Rinko

Adjournment: at 3:48

1. Tricia Cook made a motion to adjourn
2. Laura Jo -second
3. All approve