

William H. Jervey Library Community Room

Meeting called to order at 1:12PM

1. Call to order and welcome
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Reading of The Collect
4. After meeting social at Café Venice headcount: 17
5. Speaker
 - a. Gray Videnka, Director of Philanthropy, Women's Resource Center
 - i. Started in 1979
 - ii. By a group of home makers
 - iii. Venice office is expanding; also in Sarasota and Brandenton
 - iv. Empower educate, engage & enrich women: meet them where they are
 - v. 40% of local households don't earn enough to cover basic needs
 - vi. 75% of women heads-of-households can't support basic needs
 - vii. Barriers: job loss; child care; housing; loss of spouse; lack of skills or education
 - viii. Resource advising & referrals
 - ix. Scholarships
 - x. Pathways to success: 2 generations (parent and their children)
 - xi. Mental health counselling – available on a sliding fee scale
 - xii. Career coaching
 - xiii. Career closet (Brandenton Unique Boutique: earns \$250K/year)
 - xiv. Our Latinas: similar to above but bi-lingual
 - xv. 2900 women in 2025, 1100 parents with children (+2,000 children), 3 families purchased their 1st home
 - xvi. Civic engagement: get women to vote so women's voices are heard
 - xvii. Advocacy (repealed the "Benefits Cliff")
 - xviii. VNWC can help:
 1. Clothing: 11 to 3, M - Th
 2. Personal care items (hygiene items)
 3. Money – receive no government funding
 4. Volunteering: both regular and one-time
6. Old Business
 - a. Approval of January minutes
 - i. Vera Rinko made a motion to approve the January meeting minutes
 - ii. Lorraine Finizio made a second motion
 - iii. All approve
 - b. Treasurer reports and the Membership Directory are available for viewing on the Members Only pages of our website. Password: LAlbee1926*
7. New Business
8. President
 - a. Membership vote in regard to Bylaws and Policies and Procedures proposed changes

- i. Explained the By-Laws that were previously emailed to all members
 - 1. Trisha Cook made a motion accept the changes
 - 2. Maria Ruitz made a second
 - 3. All approve
 - ii. Explained the Policies & Procedures that were previously emailed to all members and Laura Jo's suggestion that we add "pay online at our website"
 - 1. Tricia Cook made a motion accept the changes
 - 2. Nanci Bussaglia made a second
 - 3. All approve
 - b. Gift to city
 - i. In honor of our 100th anniversary
 - ii. The original idea of a mural at Sunbug is tabled due to vendor incompatibility
 - iii. The Old Betsy Museum has wanted a mural
 - iv. Tricia Cook made a motion to spend \$15,000 to Venice Heritage Foundation
 - v. Ellie Vick made a second
 - vi. All approve
- 9. 1st Vice President
 - a. Membership: we have 103 members
 - b. Chamber of Commerce event was successful
 - c. New member luncheon had 25 attendees
 - d. Guests
 - i. Denise Williams (new inductee for March)
 - ii. Esther (Dee) MeAlpine
 - iii. Jeanne Kircher (new inductee for March)
 - iv. Judith Isley
 - v. Linda Hogenmiller
 - vi. Mary Lulik (new inductee for March)
 - vii. Rickie Hall
 - viii. Sarah Pearson (new inductee for March)
 - ix. Therese Greble (new inductee for March)
 - e. Birthdays
 - f. Openings for 2 board members – President & Second Vice President
 - i. Description of positions' duties are in the latest newsletter
 - ii. Speaking on their own behalf:
 - 1. Michelle Rose for president
 - 2. Patty Mattern for 2nd VP
 - iii. Floor is open now
 - iv. Floor will be open in March
 - g. Induct new members
 - i. Amy Johnson
 - ii. AnnMarie Kuffer
 - iii. Barbara Simon
 - iv. Charlene de Masi

- v. Evelyn Cooper
- vi. Gail DeVet
- vii. Linda Salatel
- viii. Linda Salatel
- ix. Sandy Keith
- h. Announcement of Board-approved members for President and 2nd Vice President; floor is open for other nominees
- i. Club shirts are available for order & replacement badges can be ordered
- 10. 2nd Vice President
 - a. Interest groups
 - i. A way to get to know each other
 - ii. Travel, cooking, other:
- 11. Secretary
 - a. Looking for IT help
 - i. Maria Ruitz is willing to assist
- 12. Director of Fundraising
 - a. Mural update
 - b. Jubilee
 - i. 200 ticket sales: hoping for 300
 - ii. 25 people in the play
 - iii. More are participating in other ways
 - iv. There is a rehearsal, Sat. 2/21
 - v. Special drink name
 - 1. Louella Spritzer
 - c. Signup sheet for Venice Theatre tour next week
 - d. Lions Club has their "Mane Event" fashion show
- 13. Raffle
 - a. \$160 total
 - i. Mary Jayne D'Eugeaio & Lisa Nisaholian

Next meeting March 12, 2026 Wm H. Jervy Venice Library Community Room

Adjournment @2:38PM

- a. Lorraine Finizio made a motion to adjourn
- b. Bernie Novicki made a second
- c. All approve

Submitted by Vicki Hazle, Secretary