



# City of Venice

401 West Venice Avenue  
Venice, FL 34285  
www.venicegov.com

## Meeting Minutes Environmental Advisory Board

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Wednesday, July 12, 2023

1:00 PM

Council Chambers

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### Broadcast

#### I. Call to Order

Chair Davis called the meeting to order at 1:01 P.M.

#### II. Roll Call

**Present** 7 - George Davis, Kaj Jensen, Bruce Miller, Robert Daniels, Jeffrey Smith, Nancy Dixon and Richard Liesmann

#### Also Present

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Council Liaison Dick Longo, City Engineer Kathleen Weeden, Recording Secretary Amanda Hawkins-Brown, and Records Clerk Tracey Smith.

#### 23-6164

Welcome New Board Members

Ms. Dixon and Mr. Liesmann introduced themselves and provide professional histories.

#### III. Approval of Minutes

#### 23-6109

Minutes of the March 22, 2023 and May 31, 2023 Meetings.

A motion was made by Mr. Daniels, seconded by Mr. Miller to approve the minutes of the March 22, 2023 and May 31, 2023 meeting as written. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

#### IV. New Business

#### 23-6165

Protections for Threaten Species.

Discussion took place regarding contributions to the Land Development Regulations (LDR), tortoise population observations, environmental changes, patrols for gopher tortoises, Interlocal Park Agreement for park maintenance, land ownerships of parks, oversight by Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission (FWC), under five acres rules in LDRs, Legacy Trail, other protected species, systems for reporting, recommendation letter to City Council, Sarasota County policy for threatened species management,

gap in reporting and resolution of violations, FWC response, see click fix reporting option, tracking of reporting results, public education, follow up with other agencies, best way to report to FWC, research of report processes, posting reminder of reporting options on City website, and utilizing City's social media.

## V. Unfinished Business

### 23-6022

Recommendations to Address Water Quality Issues  
Aquaculture in Gulf, Mini Reefs, Shellfish Planting, Reduction of Nitrogen in Stormwater Runoff, and Mow Zones

Discussion took place regarding stormwater outflow report provided, pending reports from Venice Yacht Club, stormwater budget for improvements, water quality report provided to Council, capital improvement budgets available on City website, current Capital Improvement Projects (CIP), impact from Hurricane Ian, City Engineer Weeden providing summary of current projects and systems, flooding origination, manmade lake for flood management, required reporting on stormwater management systems, Southwest Florida Water Management District (SWFWMD) requirements, drought impact, inspection and repair of piping, marking for drainage lines, public education programs, landscaping impacts, no mow zones, and Homeowners Association (HOA) and landscaping company education.

Bob Daniels left meeting at 2:28 p.m.

Discussion continued on City jurisdiction on private property, engineering certifications, best practices for pond management, public outreach programs in place, and best plant species for pond perimeter.

### 23-6021

Reducing Single Use Plastic  
Skip the Straw and Lid, Promote Compostable Food Service Items

Discussion took place regarding presentation by Venice Creamery at last meeting, marketing opportunities for businesses, and coordinating with Venice MainStreet on community projects.

## VI. Updates

Discussion took place on City Council's review of Advisory Boards, and Board's continued communication to Council and Mayor.

## VII. Future Agenda Items

Discussion took place regarding the increased recycling agenda items, and report by staff on current projects.

## VIII. Board Discussion

Discussion took place regarding action items for research by Mr. Smith and Mr. Liesmann, fertilizers for lawns, Florida friendly planting, board meeting schedule, and detailed review of outflow report.

#### **IX. Audience Participation**

No one signed up to speak.

#### **X. Adjournment**

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:11 p.m.



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Chair



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Recording Secretary