



City of Venice

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

Meeting Minutes Citizen Advisory Board

Wednesday, April 15, 2026

2:00 PM

Council Chambers

I. Call to Order

Chair Effron called the meeting to order at 2:00 P.M.

II. Roll Call

Present 8 - Mr. Roger Effron, Mr. Steve Carr, Mr. Alex Dafoulas, Dr. Mary Davis, Mr. Hayden Heaney, Mr. Terry Redman, Mr. Phillip Ellis and Mrs. Kaitlyn Panfil
Excused 1 - Ms. Mary Moscatelli

Also Present

Council Liaison Mayor Nick Pachota, City Clerk Kelly Michaels, City Manager James Clinch, Assistant City Manager Roger Omenhiser, Assistant City Attorney Dan Lewis, Historical Resources Manager Harry Klinkhamer, Fire Chief Frank Giddens, and Recording Secretary Amanda Hawkins-Brown.

III. Audience Participation

Susan Horton, 150 The Corso, spoke on the history of Venice Little League.

IV. Approval of Minutes

[26-0574](#) Minutes of the February 18, 2026 Meeting

A motion was made by Mr. Ellis, seconded by Mrs. Panfil, that the minutes of the February 18, 2026 meeting be approved as written. The motion carried unanimously by voice vote.

V. Presentations

[26-0575](#) Annual Presentation by Mayor Pachota and Charter Officers
(City Manager Clinch, City Clerk Michaels, City Attorney Fernandez)

Mayor Pachota, City Clerk Michaels, City Manager Clinch, Assistant City Attorney Lewis presented past annual chair meetings, new formatting this year, duties of the board, attendance, notifications for quorum, using city email accounts, meeting decorum, sound in chambers, properly stated

motions, encouraging audience participation, time management, moderating public comment, council member liaison role, staff liaison role, Legislative Referral process, annual report, Quasi-Judicial hearings compared to Legislative hearings, not responding to public comment, Roberts Rules of Order, utilizing recesses if needed, volunteers for seats needed, preparing for meetings, utilize staff resources appropriately, and thanked the board for their service.

Discussion took place regarding execution, and access to staff support.

VI. Election

[26-0576](#) Election of Chair and Vice Chair

A motion was made by Mr. Carr, seconded by Mr. Dafoulas, to nominate Roger Effron for Chair. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Yes: 8 - Mr. Effron, Mr. Carr, Mr. Dafoulas, Dr. Davis, Mr. Heaney, Mr. Redman, Mr. Ellis and Mrs. Panfil

Absent: 1 - Ms. Moscatelli

A motion was made by Mr. Carr, seconded by Mrs. Panfil, to nominate Mary Davis for Vice Chair. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Yes: 8 - Mr. Effron, Mr. Carr, Mr. Dafoulas, Dr. Davis, Mr. Heaney, Mr. Redman, Mr. Ellis and Mrs. Panfil

Absent: 1 - Ms. Moscatelli

VII. New Business

[26-0577](#) Old Betsy Mural Application Historical Resources Manager Klinkhamer

Historical Resources Manager Klinkhamer presented new mural for Old Betsy Museum, sketch, lighting, and funding.

Coleen Henry, Artist, answered Board question on timeline for completion, and whether there were references of her previous work.

A motion was made by Mr. Ellis, seconded by Mr. Carr, to recommend to City Council approval of the Old Betsy Mural application. The motion carried by the following roll call vote:

Yes: 8 - Mr. Effron, Mr. Carr, Mr. Dafoulas, Dr. Davis, Mr. Heaney, Mr. Redman, Mr. Ellis and Mrs. Panfil

Absent: 1 - Ms. Moscatelli

VIII. Unfinished Business

[25-0449](#) Evaluate and Recommend Improvements as it Relates to the City's Website

Mr. Dafoulas updated the board on a selection of vendor, and finalizing the statement of work.

IT Director Navarro and Project Manager Chuck Poor spoke on reviewing in-depth demos, Website Advisory Committee, contract under review, anticipated survey results, expected wire frames, and answered Board questions on whether the project timelines are on track, sharing the statement of work, estimated completion date, and having a vendor presentation.

Recess was taken from 2:52 p.m. until 2:56 p.m.

X. Staff Comments

[26-0578](#)

Update on Hurricane After Action Report Recommendations
City Manager Clinch

Fire Chief Giddens and Assistant City Manager Omenhiser spoke on the after action report for the emergency management plan, update on how recommendations have been implemented, communications, additional PIO staffing, Starlink Wi-Fi access points, information on local news stations, sandbags operations, volunteer networking, evacuation levels education, debris removal, the hurricane guide, drainage projects, rebuilding and repair efforts, community outreach, meeting special needs, centralized hurricane resource locations, guidance for tourist, staff support and partnerships, and answered Board questions on sandbags operation plans, impact of Wellfield Park changes, communications for those with limited access, whether there was a watershed study, partnerships for volunteers and scope, the hurricane guide being specific to Venice, distribution beyond city facilities, working with Sarasota County Emergency Operations, and the new Fire Station.

IX. Board Discussion

There was no discussion.

X. Staff Comments

City Manager Clinch reported the consultant for the Parks Master Plan has been selected.

XI. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before this Board, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Chair

Recording Secretary