

VILLAGE CIRCLE MEETING

December 13, 2021

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by President Nancy Hudson

The President welcomed all newcomers, returning Winter Texans and attendees to the meeting.

From the General Manager Nathan Ochsenfeld

- This is a year-round park, and he would like to see VCC meeting occur monthly in the summer
- The by-laws will need to be changed to reflect this is a year-round park instead of a 6-month park
- There will be activities year-round
- There are several improvements like blinds for the windows that he would like to see the VCC fund
- The park has a webpage, a Facebook page, a Facebook group, an RC page, and a church page
 - All these carry the corporate name of Rancho Village and are under the control of the park
 - All sites are to be used to promote the park and/or its activities
 - The Rancho Senior Resort Park Facebook page is for information about the park
 - The Rancho Village Circle Club Facebook Group is for information about activities in the park
 - No negative or controversial topics or debates will be allowed at any site operating under the Rancho Village name.
- Rancho Village is open for business for all activities. There will be no mask mandate at the park unless directed by Weslaco. It is up to each individual to determine if they wish to wear a mask

From the President Nancy Hudson

- She provided a brief bio and read a poem describing the passage of time and the importance of leaving a positive memory

From the Park Manager Don Voyles

- If you are holding an activity in the main hall, make sure the lights are turned off and all the doors are locked when you leave
- There was a report of some feral dogs in the park, and everything is being done to catch them

From the Floor:

- Doug Marth called for a Point of Order regarding the posting of the minutes on the bulletin board in the hall as required by the by-laws no later than two days prior to the next meeting
 - The secretary acknowledged that she had not posted the latest minutes on the bulletin board in the hall as required and this will be rectified.
- Doug Marth called for a Point of Order regarding following Roberts Rules of Order in the VCC meeting as required by the by-laws
 - He stated that at the last VCC meeting, the membership was told that Robert's Rules of Order would not be followed at the VCC meetings and asked if there was a membership vote on this deviation from the by-laws?
 - The president stated that she interpreted the by-laws regarding Robert's Rules of Order as they are to be used as needed
 - Doug stated that this was not as stated in the by-laws
 - The Treasurer, Sue Kaneski, stated that she had spoken to the previous treasurer, who said that Roberts Rules of Order must be followed, or any actions taken in the meeting could be invalid
 - Doug stated that he had been in many groups that dealt with this issue and that the meeting agenda needs to follow Robert's Rules of Order. He asked if the president would like to make an announcement that Robert's Rules of Order would be relaxed or not used.
 - The President stated that the summer VCC meetings were more relaxed since they were not official in a 6-month park. She stated she had received positive feedback that the informal approach was liked
 - Doug stated that one solution that he has used is to have a vote of the membership to approve temporarily suspending Robert's Rules of Order in a meeting.
 - Nancy stated that she is unaware of where Robert's Rules of Order are not being followed in the VCC meetings. She does not want to suspend use of them but use them more informally. She asked for a motion regarding this.
 - Doug made a motion that the board would be allowed to conduct the meeting today with an informal Roberts Rules of Order

- The president asked if this motion on an informal agenda can be used at every meeting. Doug stated that it would have to be voted on at each meeting unless the by-laws were changed
 - The Vice President, Bob Derr, asked Doug to explain what the board was doing wrong.
 - Doug responded that it was stated at the last meeting that the board would not be following Robert's Rules of Order, which is in violation of the by-laws, although he believes they are being followed in the most part.
 - The president asked if Doug was unhappy because the VCC wasn't following Robert's Rules of Order completely or if he was unhappy that she made that statement. He stated that it was her statement. The president then rescinded her statement that she made at the last meeting and called for a vote on the motion to conduct this meeting informally.
 - Motion was seconded and a hand vote was held. Motion carried.
 - Doug explained that he was only pursuing this to make sure that all actions taken in the VCC meetings were legal and not invalidated. He stated that the membership had done the right thing in approving his motion
- Doug Marth called for a Point of Order regarding the committee reports. His questions are:
 - Will the VCC provide a set agenda for the meeting, and will committee reports be read by the secretary or will each committee chairman be allowed to report, which has been a longtime practice.
 - The president stated that this will be addressed in new business
 - Doug stated that it was probably new business, but he would like to have it addressed now as to what procedures are in place that the committee reports would have to follow. Also, is a set agenda provided prior to the meeting?
 - The secretary stated that a set agenda can be provided since this is a business meeting of the VCC. The set agenda would include Secretary's Report, Treasurer's Report, Old Business, New Business and Committee Reports.
 - The secretary also stated that the informational meeting that was held in November was beneficial to all attendees because it focused on each committee's details and allowed ample time for a question-and-answer session. It was so well received that she suggests it be incorporated into the VCC activities and held as a separate informational committee meeting. Additionally, at the informational meeting, a total of 27 committee chairs spoke for a total time of almost an hour. To add this reporting to a VCC meeting results in a very lengthy meeting and very labor-intensive minutes to be taken of each committee report
 - Discussion
 - Doug stated that he had been asked by several people to be their voice and address the subject of committee reports. He stated that the informational meeting he held was well received but it was not the traditional way committee reports have always been conducted, which was at the VCC meeting.

- Doug further stated that the board arbitrarily decided that they do not want to continue the practice of having the individual committee reports at the VCC meeting. He states this was wrong of the board to implement this new process without a membership vote and people do not want a summary but rather want to report individually. He states they could be told to be brief but should not be prevented from presenting their report. He states that it has been done this way for years. He said the informational meeting was different in that people could ask questions but that the committee reports should continue to remain as part of the VCC meeting.
 - Doug made a motion that all committee chairs or their representatives be allowed to give an individual committee report as part of the VCC meeting agenda.
Seconded by Sharon Foley
 - Discussion:
 - A resident stated that she is a new resident and had gained a lot from the informational meeting committee reports and would like to see it continue
 - The activity director stated that she appreciated the new resident's input and would like to address the description of having the committee chairs or their representatives briefly provide a committee update. This is not what is needed for the new residents. They need detailed updates and information from the committee and the opportunity to ask questions which is why a separate informational committee meeting was suggested for that purpose
 - Sharon Fracker stated she had been a resident for 20 years and the informational meeting was the most informative meeting she had ever attended and would like to see it continue. The president stated she too would like to see the informational committee meetings continue.
 - Dave Bundy asked for an amendment to the motion to have committee reports immediately following VCC meeting adjournment so the secretary does not have to have detailed minutes of each committee report and people can leave or stay as they wish
 - The activity director stated that there are speakers scheduled for after the VCC meetings and it would not be fair to them to have an unspecified time to be present since there is no way to gauge how long the committee reports would actually take. An informational committee meeting would remedy that situation
 - Mary Pederson stated that the one thing that provided all the information was the Vista newsletter
 - The president stated that there was a motion on the floor and discussion had moved away from the motion and requested the motion be reread
 - The motion is as follows:
 - Committee Chairmen or their representatives will be given time at the end of the VCC meeting and before adjournment to give their committee reports and this should be included in every VCC meeting agenda
 - Doug stated that a time limit could be given to each individual to speak

- Doug also states that the secretary does not have to take detailed minutes of the committee reports and could just say committee chairs gave announcements regarding their committee
 - The president stated that he was incorrect on that statement. She stated that when she was secretary, she was required to include detailed committee reports in the minutes but only a summary of the meeting with the phrase “committee chairs gave their reports” was posted. This is the way she was trained as secretary by the outgoing secretary, and she followed those guidelines to train the incoming secretary.
- A suggestion was made by Sandy Funk that the committee reports only be given at one meeting a month.
 - Doug disagreed with this because he states the committee information needs to be timely. He stated that the board arbitrarily made the decision to cancel the last meeting in November so information would have not been timely from the previous meeting
- Marlynda Rogier stated that the calendar is published monthly and is available in the diner and at the mailbox parcel room. It has an attached list of all scheduled activities.
 - Doug states that this is an issue that is not related to his motion
- A resident stated that not everyone uses the internet. They want the information on paper, so the Vista newsletter is needed
 - Doug states that these are separate issues and a vote for his motion does not include any other means of communication such as the Vista newsletter
- Dick Fullerton stated that the committee reports at the end of the VCC meeting are not to provide detailed information but rather to communicate what the event is and who to contact. Residents should contact that person if they need additional information
- The president called for a vote on the motion that event chairs and their representatives be given time at the end of the meeting and before meeting adjournment to provide their committee report and this should be included in all VCC meeting agendas.
- A hand vote was taken. Motion carried
 - The president stated that being on the front stage allows the board to observe who speaks and not because they feel they are superior to the membership. She also states that this observation clearly showed that people begin leaving during the committee reports due to the length of the meeting. She stated that the board did not decide to summarize the committee reports instead of individual reports without a great deal of discussion on the pros and cons. But she states the motion passed so we will revert to the way it has always been done it in regard to the committee reports
- The president stated there is an amendment on the floor to the previous motion to move the individual committee reports to immediately

following the VCC meeting adjournment. Motion was made by Dave Bundy, seconded by Jim Lindquist. The president called for a vote.

- The president states that if the amendment does not pass, the secretary will resign.
 - Doug stated that the president cannot interrupt the vote with comments
- A hand vote was held but was too close to call. The president called for a count. The vote was tied at 42 for and 42 against
- The President stated she will break the tie
 - Doug said she cannot break the tie. She must either call for a revote or it becomes a mute vote. There was no motion to revote
- Mr. Fitzgerald spoke and stated he had been a resident for 30 years and the VCC president for many years and has never seen a meeting disrupted like this.has been. He states that since we are not strictly following Robert’s Rules of Order “Madam President you should run the meeting however you want to”
 - Doug states that she can still run the meeting but must follow the Rules of Order

The president states that it is now after 10:00 a.m. and the 9:00 a.m. meeting should have been over but has not even started due to the disruptions. The president then left the meeting

The secretary spoke and stated that she wants to make it clear that she loves being the activity director and will remain in that position if the membership wants her to. She also states that it is clear that a portion of the membership does not trust the board and she will not seek reelection as VCC board secretary

Linda Markert asked if it was part of the constitution or by-laws that directs the committee reports to be part of the VCC meetings or if it is just being done because it has been done that way for the past 20 years.

- The Vice President, Bob Derr stated it is not directed in the constitution or the by-laws that committee reports have to be included in the VCC meeting.

Secretary’s Report was read and approved

Treasurer’s Report was given by the Treasurer, Sue Kaneski

- Beginning bank balance - \$14,767
- Receipts \$4,235
- Disbursements \$5,543
- Ending bank balance \$13,459
- There were no questions or corrections.
- The treasurer suggested that the treasurer position should be filled by a full-time resident

Old Business:

Vice President, Bob Derr stated that discussion on rewriting the by-laws will be tabled since most attendees have already left the meeting

New Business:

- The nominating committee for the 2022 – 2023 VCC board positions is Linda Markert, Denise Roberts and Denny Hearld.
- Volunteers for the Audit committee are Sue Rager, Dave Bundy and Sue Morgan
 - The treasurer requests that the audit committee meet with her after the meeting to confirm audit dates
- A volunteer is needed to pick up donuts for the VCC meetings. No one volunteered

Committee Reports:

- Volunteers are needed to help with the Christmas Dinner. Sign-up sheets are in the Rancho Diner
- Christmas dinner tickets will be on sale after the meeting today and on December 17th, 20th and 22 from 10:00 to 10:30 in the Rancho Diner
- The Christmas parade will be December 15th. Meet at 5:30 in front of the main hall.

- Shuffleboard Lunches will be available to residents on December 14th, 15, and 16th at noon. No upfront money is required. Ticket box and instructions are in the Rancho Diner
- Helen Russell & Company will be performing on December 17th in the main hall from 3:00 – 5:00. Pass the Hat
- The Ice Cream Social will be December 19th at 2:00 p.m.
- Christmas Dinner is December 25th at 1:00 p.m.
- The New Year's Eve Party will be December 31st from 8:00 p.m. – 12:00 a.m. \$15 pp
- The Woodcarver's Show & Sale will be January 3rd from 8:00 – 12:00
- The 50th Anniversary Celebration will be February 27th. Sign up in the Rancho Diner
- \$700 from the Razz Ma Tazz show was donated back to the school

Activity Report

- The main hall windows are beautifully decorated for Christmas. Thanks to all that decorated. Please remove decorations by Jan 5th if possible
- Please volunteer your group to decorate a main hall window for the season. Your window decorations should showcase and advertise your group activity. Sign up sheet is in the Rancho Diner
- A park directory will be created this year by Universal Publications. Photographs for the directory are tentatively scheduled to begin in late February.

Vice President Bob Derr asked if there were any additional comments or questions. Hearing none, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:32 am.

Susan Scholl

VCC Secretary