VENETIAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
SOCIAL/DINING COMMITTEE
June 4, 2013

This meeting was continuation of May 22 meeting since management was not represented at May 22 meeting.

Attendees were: Jim Shea, Angella Cisco-Ferreira, Josh Grant, Denise Waite Milykovic, Ginny Keller, Jim Bottini, Barbara Bracco. There was a review of the partial minutes of the May 22 meeting.

Old Business

In review of Pasta Night, discussions were held with the chef to pare down the options and to offer lighter healthier options.

There was also discussion of the ladies’ luncheon that lighter healthier options should be offered at luncheons.

In discussion of future events planned we do not have a lot of them at this point but we plan to post them 3-4 months projected out. The themes for the events will be posted to the website. The full menus may not be included initially but a general description of the events will be posted to the website calendar.

Josh has requested an increase in the entertainment budget and has also asked for increase in classes offered in the fall.

Jim Shea said board is faced with question of what residents want the River Club to be over the next few years. Denise asked if there were any non resident members. There are but we don’t advertise it. The cost is $3,450 per year.

There was then a lengthy discussing about the change of Anniversary Night over to “Down Home Cooking Night.” Since the Anniversary Night had consistently been losing money, management had changed it to the new venue. Committee members were surprised that this was changed in the middle of the year. Jim Shea said it should have been published. Josh said if someone would ask the question at the function, they would give that person their meal for free and management had made the decision to start this venue now. Several committee members expressed opinions that this change should have been published.

Another change in the club calendar is that Friday nights will not be publicized as “Prime Rib Night” but prime rib will still continue to be offered as the “special” for the evening. There will be the option that people who want to make sure they can have their prime rib can call ahead and reserve their prime rib dinner. In discussions with the new chef, he is great at accepting new ideas.

At upcoming events, the Ship Wreck Dance we have 90 reservations. The reaction to the “Running of the Bulls event is also well received. It is planned to have one event per month n the summer. River Club is closed from July 29 to August 6. Angella will have the calendar shortly.
August 24 will be the next event; then September 21; then perhaps October 23. October 26 will be the Pool Party/Welcome Back/Member Mixer. Thinking a pool setting with music but starting early because of bugs at dusk.

Ginny asked how DJs are selected. Angella said they were chosen according to who is available and we pay approximately $500 per time. Scheduled so far: Tom Acardi for June; Jan Pomerani for July and Jay Smith for August and December.

Angella asked about having Thursday or Sunday evening events like Bingo, trivia or name that tune nights similar to events at the Golf club. Winner prizes would be the person would get their dinner or drinks free. She asked the committee to “feel people out” over the summer to get their reaction to these ideas. Ginny asked about Cheesburger on Thursday in November or December. Angella suggested November 16.

Suggested new themes for events:

- October 12 will be T-shirt, jeans and flip flop dinner dance
- October 23 Octoberfest Theme
- Clam Digger Dinner Dance – New England theme – entertainment 1 man band
- The October 26 Poolside Mixer/Welcome Back Function – We need a good name for this event.
- Suggested limited schedule for December because of very little participation during the holidays except for the New Year’s Eve function.
- Requested Denise ask her Juliettes have their charity luncheon in December at the River Club rather than at one of the local restaurants and whether December 12 would work for them
- November 16 could be a big ticket event like the comedien/magician/dueling pianos
- A second/third big ticket event in January/April
- Other ideas an orchestra brunch
- Josh suggested a chili cook-off where 10-12 residents would enter. An event with high tables and mingle
- Carnival
- A mystery night is fun but expensive.

Josh mentioned he had received requests from residents to change dinnertime from 6-9 to 5:30 – 8:30

**New Business**

**CDD Update**

Jim Shea said on the coming Tuesday the maximum budget for the CDD would be presented but wanted our committee members to spread the word to residents that the amount residents would pay for River Club membership for the coming year would remain the same and would not be higher. There will also be a note going out soon about gate clicker deactivation. The proposal for security for the pool and fitness center area is still under consideration but no system has yet been selected. A card scanning system is probably going to be selected but no decision has been made yet.
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Social Dining Committee meetings will resume in October and will be held on the second Wednesday of the month. The next meeting of the committee will be on October 9 at 10 o’clock.

Ginny moved for adjournment, seconded by Denise. Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.