

Venice Neighborhood Council
Education Committee Meeting Summary
Wednesday, June 8, 2016

In Attendance:

Bud Jacobs, Chantel Hunter-Mah, Joelle Dumas, Robin Lithgow, Zeena Pliska

Absent:

Andrea Castellanos, Lydia Ponce, Ruth Seroussi, Idalia Munoz

Two guests were in attendance

- The agenda was approved with the addition of Ari Ruiz from Assembly Woman Burke's office. Ari reported on education bills before the state legislature and the May revise of the state budget was discussed. Prop 30's importance to LAUSD, the Teacher Workforce Bill and the California Teacher Corp were also discussed.
- A report from the last VNC meeting included discussion of the election, the Big Blue Bus line reconsideration and improvements to the Vera Davis Center.

The guests made public comment on the following:

- The Veterans Alliance Art Walk which will include 30 artists will be held on June 18 from 5-10 p.m. at the Veterans Alumni House in Culver City
- Concern regarding possible inproprieties at the recent VNC election were discussed by Rick Selan. He contends that proper procedures were not followed by the slate of candidates from the Venice Chamber of Commerce. He is lodging a formal complaint.

Old Business reviewed the activities from the 2015-16 academic year. The following were approved for continuation:

- Support a principals' reception at the beginning of the school year and return to the Canal Club
- Support the Venice Academic Excellence Jackets Program as long as the awards are not tied to standardized test scores.
- Support the Holiday Gift Drive for Foster and Unsheltered Youth
- Support the WAVE Awards Dinner next Spring
- Try to do a better job on coordinating Earth Day throughout the Venice Family of School

A lengthy discussion took place about the VNC elections which had 2800 participants last Sunday. A great turnout with long lines waiting to vote and a new balance coming to the VNC. The group will contact the new President, Ira Koslow, to see whom he is asking to chair the Education Committee next year, and try to meet with Mr. Koslow and the new chair in July. All of the members present agreed to stay involved on the committee and hopefully the new chair can call a planning meeting in July close to our July 13 date.

A printed copy of the LAUSD calendar for 2016-17 was shared with the group.

A special thanks goes out to all the committee members who helped make the year a great success! Each member present was given a special New Orleans Praline candy for their hard work!

Future meetings will be calendared by the new Education Committee Chair.

Have a great summer - Bud