

## VNC BOARD APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY OFFICER

### Contact Information:

Qualifying Stakeholder Address (*Dirección*):

<u>Print Name/Nombre en letra de molde:</u> Barry Cassilly			
Street address / Dirección	City / Ciudad	State / Estado	Zip/ Código Postal

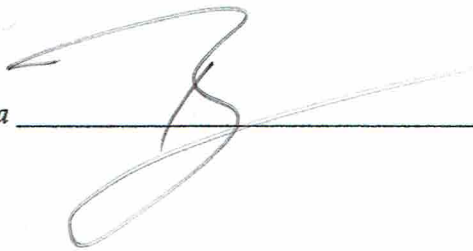
Mailing Address (if different):

Street address / Dirección	City / Ciudad	State / Estado	Zip/ Código Postal
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Contact Numbers:

Phone (Day) / Teléfono (día)	Phone (Evening) / Teléfono (tardé)	Fax Number
Text		
<u>Email / Correo Electrónico (very important)</u>		

I hereby certify, that I wish to serve as Community Officer on the Venice Neighborhood Council Board of Officers and I live, work, or own property within the boundaries of the VNC area.

Stakeholder Signature/*Firma*  Date 3/7/17

1) Please explain why you wish to serve on the VND Board of Officers

a) Have you served before on the VNC Board or other Neighborhood Council Board? If so, where and when.

No. I have served in many capacities as a community volunteer, as a PTSA president, AYSO coach and referee, community advocate with the Center for Neighborhood Technologies and director of an arts non-profit organization. But, no, I have not served on a Neighborhood Council.

b) Have you served on a VNC Committee? Which one and for how long?

I have been on the Discussion Forum Committee since last Fall.

c) Please state your professional qualifications or related experience relevant to this position.

And as already mentioned, I've been a PTSA president, longtime Venice resident, community volunteer in AYSO, performance arts, poetry publications, and various advocacy efforts in support of progressive urban planning initiatives. I have also been actively involved in area groups advocating for progressive housing policies which would alleviate the housing affordability crisis in Los Angeles and increase the supply of middle and lower income housing.

d) How long have you been a stakeholder in the Venice area.

I have been a stakeholder in Venice for 17 years.

2) Please list your previous and/or current neighborhood or community involvement.

Most currently, I have been heavily involved in resolving the problems that arose from the unintended consequences the Coastal Commission abruptly sending CDP applications through the City of LA at the same time that Los Angeles rolled out SurveyLA. In the confusion that resulted, extreme hardship was borne by Venice residents, all single family home owners. For a time, de facto historic designation was conferred on properties without no property owner notification or consent. It looks as if the city will now move to do follow-up work on SurveyLA, which was a cursory, reconnaissance survey. That follow up work should include the community notice, involvement and consent that SurveyLA lacked.

I have also been involved in a number of advocacy projects to move Los Angeles away from a car dependent, carbon intensive economy to a more sustainable multi-modal transportation system that emphasizes planning around the needs of people, not automobiles.

3) Please list the three most pressing issues that you feel are facing the Venice Community.

Housing scarcity and related housing affordability.

Homelessness. We need to treat the homeless humanely, provide services and balance that with the legitimate concerns of residents.

Kindness. The tone of discussions in many community gatherings is rather hostile in tone. I believe neighbors should be supportive and helpful to each other. Larger projects are one thing, but when homeowners, our neighbors, come before the VNC with work they would like to do on

I would like to see the VNC engage in some genuinely progressive and visionary answers to our current challenges. By the same token, I'd like to take a complete break from hearing about parking or traffic.

5) What is your vision for Venice?

I'd like to see Venice re-engage with the radical experimentation of the 70's through 90's and re-affirm the visionary, risk taking spirit of Abbot Kinney. Frank Gehry, Dogtown, 5 amusement parks by the sea. Come on. It wasn't so long ago. We can still do it, or at least we can make some noise trying.

6) Are you willing to participate in a VNC committee? Which committee interests you and why?

I love the Discussion Forum because it deals with core ideas related to livability, sustainability and inclusion. Joe Murphy rocks. Land Use and Planning Committee is related in that it deals with urban planning on a more applied level, but I'm sort of an egg head so I think Discussion Forum is really fun.