



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / www.VeniceNC.org
Email: info@VeniceNC.org Phone: 310-421-8627

Venice Arbor Committee (VArb) Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: May 17, 2024
Meeting Time: 11:00 AM Pacific Time
Meeting Location: Gjusta, 320 Sunset Ave., Venice, CA
Contact: isabelle@idarchitect.com, sarahwauters123@gmail.com

PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS:

In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non- exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at the Venice Branch Library at our website: <https://www.venicenc.org/committees/viewCommittee/venice-arbor-committee> or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact Sarah Wauters at sarahwauters123@gmail.com.

Public Posting of Agendas -

Venice Neighborhood Council agendas are posted for public review as follows:

- Venice Branch of LA Public Library
- www.NeighborhoodCouncilWebsite.com
- You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City's Early Notification System (ENS)

(Brown Act Required Language): Notice to Paid Representatives -

If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 48.01 et seq. More information is available at ethics.lacity.org/lobbying. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or ethics.commission@lacity.org

Public comment will be limited to one comment for 60 seconds per item.

- Please do not raise your hand more than once per item
- Raise your hand at the start of the items you want to speak on. We will then close public comment and announce the last person to speak a few minutes after the start of the item.
- No ceding your time to others will be allowed
- The meeting is being video and audio recorded.
- The public will be able to listen and speak but their video will be disabled.

Sarah Wauters, Chair (SW)	X	Michael McGuffin	
Isabelle Duvivier	X	Noel Johnston	
Mark Ryavec		Barry Campion	X
Janin Paine	X	Nico (ex-officio)	

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. PUBLIC COMMENT – Paola sent guidance for community plan. Robin Murez – there is an article about depaving.
4. Reports
 - a. Chair Report - Sarah Wauters
 - b. Report from CFAC - Isabelle Duvivier
 - c. VVG Report – Noel Johnston
 - d. OFW Report – Barry
5. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Removal of Michael McGuffin and Mark Ryavec from Committee
 - i. **Items for Discussion, Action, and Possible Motion**
 - ii. **Public comment**
 - iii. **Committee discussion**
 - iv. **Motion – Vote on removal – 1st - SRW, 2nd – BC. Motion carried 4-0-0**



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / www.VeniceNC.org

Email: info@VeniceNC.org Phone: 310-421-8627

- b. Letter to Property Owners who Illegally Prune Trees
 - i. Items for Discussion, Action, and Possible Motion
 - ii. Public Comment – Robin Murez suggest that we have VNC send out an announcement about the need for permit to trim a street trees. Paula Pini suggests a link to the code in our website. RM - Contact Brian to put announcement on the VNC email. Instagram announcement.
 - iii. Committee discussion – ID - City Council ruling that Board of Public Works refuses to address so it will go back to the City Council. VARB would be the enforcement committee for this. The letter would inform homeowners and developers that they'd need permits and otherwise they will be fined. Janin Paine suggests adding links to the letter to offer more information.
 - iv. Next steps: Isabelle will send to Joanne with links including to the code, and will ask her if she can draft an announcement. In future if we see tree removal we will send a VARB/VNC letter. When Joanne finishes the letter VARB will make a motion.
 - v. Motion – “The VNC Board empowers VARB to send letters in the form attached to residents, developers, or owners within Venice whose street trees have been illegally pruned. This includes trimming that has been so drastic as to effectively begin the end of the tree’s life.” 1st -SW 2nd - BC Motion carried. 4-0-0.

- c. Urban Canopy Motion Put Forward in LUPC’s May 2 Meeting – Isabelle attended the meeting. The motion passed but was not agendized on the VNC Board Agenda.
 - i. **Items for Discussion, Action, and Possible Motion**
 - ii. **Public comment**
 - iii. **Committee discussion**
 - iv. **Motion**

- 6. OLD BUSINESS – No time remained in order to address the below subjects.
 - a. **Venice Pilot Projects to Support Biodiversity in the Urban Environment**
 - b. Planning a Celebration of our 500th tree in the Ground – Report to the VNC Board
 - i.

Comments on items not on the agenda for consideration.

10. ADJOURNED 12pm.

THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT:

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices and other auxiliary aids and/or services, may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / www.VeniceNC.org

Email: info@VeniceNC.org Phone: 310-421-8627

your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting Sarah Wauters at 917 822 2247 by text or email at sarahwauters123@gmail.com.