



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: October 18th, 2024

Meeting Time: 2:00 PM Pacific Time

Meeting Location: Gjusta, 320 Sunset Ave., Venice, CA

Contact: sarahwauters123@gmail.com, a.kemkes@verizon.net

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.

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- Venice Branch of LA Public Library
- www.NeighborhoodCouncilWebsite.com
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(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, Co-Chair	Phone	Andreas Kemkes, Co-Chair	X
Isabelle Duvivier	X	Barry Campion	
Janin Paine	X	Eric Schiff	X
Nico Ruderman (ex-officio)			

1. Call to Order – Approved August and September meeting minutes, Andreas moved, Isabelle 2nd, 4-0-0.
2. Public Comments on non-agenda items. Steve Bradbury comments on trees that were cut down on Hurricane. SRW emailed the city twice and received emails in return.
3. Reports
 - a. Chair Report – Andreas Kemkes - Congress of Neighborhood: CEMO (Climate Emergency Mobilization Office) under Board of Public Works work on mitigation of heat in LA and increased tree canopy is part of heating mitigation.
 - b. CFAC - Isabelle Duvivier - Marianne King gave a good albeit depressing report on new housing plans from the state, Citywide Housing Incentive Plan Ordinance and other ordinance HESMD etc. None say anything about trees. All give big density bonuses. CFAC wrote a strong letter but Isabelle is not hopeful that it will do much.
https://planning.lacity.gov/odocument/a38fe378-2c4b-4260-807e-af66a053a95b/FD_CHIP_Fact_Sheet.pdf
 Learned that LADBS, after years of waiting, has finally published guidelines, which remind builders about tree removal permits. Information Bulletin P/ZC 2024-022 GUIDELINES AND REQUIREMENTS FOR REGULATED TREES.
<https://ladbs.org/docs/default-source/publications/information-bulletins/zoning-code/ib---guidelines-and-requirements-for-regulated-trees---final.pdf>



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- c. VVG Report – Lots of good work on Sunset with a robust volunteer group, beach dune project was surveyed by Isabelle and Noel. 8 trees planted at Oakwood Park. Tomorrow VVG will be planting on Rose.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Protection of Trees - Andreas mentioned that he would monitor Tree Removal List for Venice and Mar Vista, collaborate with Mar Vista Arbor Group.
- b. Water Foundation - Measure W Grant - Janin Paine spoke about and it's early days.
- c. LUPC - Mark Mack urban forestry motion - Green Spaces - Ideas – identify city land, which of the median Islands belong to the city, which to Caltrans or DOT. Identify streets and alleys that could use more trees. We could start developing our own priority list of streets in need of canopy. City can't be relied upon at this point, they're most focused on disadvantaged communities. In CD11, it goes to low income high pollutant neighborhoods. Create an Urban Forestry Management Plan for Venice, we would like to have input on this.
- d. Urban Forestry Management Plan update - Isabelle spoke - How can we combine ideas and feed them to Rachel, who will be doing a neighborhood-wide urban canopy plan. The city's goal is only a small jump to 15% in like 10 years. Rachel is holding a series of chapter reviews to get priority feedback and refine goals, structure action plan and plan for outcomes. Been discussing funding and overall goals. 3 more meetings are coming up. Implementation plan ahead. We need to feed information specific to the Venice climate zone. Clay soil, salty air, cooler temps.

5. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Letter to Landscape Architect for Rose to specify Species – Waiting for Charles Miller to send a tree list for 4 foot parkways for Penmar Revitalization Project on Rose.
- b. Artificial Turf Restrictions – Andreas Kemkes – CIS made. Andreas to report on progress and next steps. (In. 8/16/24) The City Council substituted a more watered down version which was passed. Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance has drafted a letter to further the mission of banning artificial turf.. We need a motion to sign that letter from VNC Board. Isabelle suggests it should be put on next agenda. Andreas will send more information to Brian Averil. Andreas makes a motion to ask the VNC to sign the "Artificial Turf Signon Letter of 2024" drafted by the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance.
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdYD_dEaH_33RYfQryF9XA0XEvAn2i3VmGRw9UbGid1fKff-A/viewform

Motion for VNC Board to sign the Artificial Turf Sign-On Letter by the NCSA (Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance).
Isabelle moved, Janine 2nd, 4-0-0.

Adjournment at 3:20 pm

Comments on items not on the agenda for consideration.

- 10. ANNOUNCEMENTS
- 11. ADJOURNED



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