



# Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294

www.VeniceNC.org Email: [info@VeniceNC.org](mailto:info@VeniceNC.org)



## Regular Meeting of the Preserving Public Places Committee AGENDA

**Location: Venice Abbot Kinney Branch Library, 501 Venice Blvd, Venice, CA 90291**

**DATE: Thursday, November 7, 2024**

**TIME: 5:45pm**

Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte, Secretaria, al por correo electrónico [Secretary@VeniceNC.org](mailto:Secretary@VeniceNC.org) para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Board's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is limited to one (1) minute per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

### CALL TO ORDER AND BOARD ROLL CALL

Robin Murez (chair)	Sonya Reese Greenland	
Alex Weber	Tim Rudnick	
Todd Lorber		

### APPROVAL of PRIOR MINUTES:

**GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT** - Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction. Each speaker will be allowed one (1) minute(s) unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the meeting..

### COMMITTEE REPORTS:

**OLD BUSINESS** (*Items considered in prior meeting*) Updates on previous motions:

1. Committee Renewal Motion - unanimously passed by VNC Board  
See attached Supporting Document for committee accomplishments summary
2. Pagodas Restoration - shall we submit a motion asking CD11 to have the pagodas designated Historic Cultural Monuments? A petition to preserve the pagodas was recently created by concerned stakeholders including Sarah Mahir on Facebook Venice Locals Cali USA Community site. To date, their [change.org](https://chnng.it/V2pTSKrykX) petition has garnered 128 signatures: <https://chnng.it/V2pTSKrykX>

Q: Were the pagodas rebuilt in 1995? As per RAP budget p26 on Coastal Commission Venice Beach Refurbishment Plan Report



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P12 references 1930's construction considered "landmarks"

The pagodas were built in the 1930's as part of the Works Project Act (WPA). They include 5 sites (a 6th one no longer exists) along Ocean Front Walk. 32 total umbrellas at \$10,000 each = \$320,000 in RAP budget p26

They are included in the 1968 architectural design and construction documents of the Venice Lifeguard Station, which carries forth the distinctive hexagonal form.

Motion: The Board of Officers of the Venice Neighborhood Council requests that the Council District 11 Office move to have the unique and historic Venice Pagodas which line Ocean Front Walk, giving it a continuous artistic and distinctive character, be designated as Los Angeles Historic Cultural Monuments.

Maker  Seconded

Vote: (  Yes /  No /  Abstained /  Recused /  Ineligible )

3. Walking Tour App - update on consolidating the 3 subject tours into one tour. Once consolidated, QR codes to be created, mounted around town and circulated by vnc

4. Venice Lifeguard Station - update on restoration

Letter to CD11 asking CA Coastal Commission to retract de minimus demolition waiver based upon erroneous material information regarding the ownership and condition of the building - knowingly incorrect meant to deceive and continues risk of causing confusion. No motion required. This is follow up to prior requests

How to get the County Supervisor Lindsay Horvath and Department of Beaches & Harbors to begin repairs? \$1.2 Million intended for demolition will go far toward repairs. (Fran Soloman?)

The Olympics are coming in 4 years. If not used for Lifeguard Services, repurpose the tower portion as a public access venue. 25+ Lifeguards have competed in past Olympics; Lifeguards will compete in the next Olympics. The building will be an excellent venue for crowds visiting Venice Beach. Olympics rings and lighting can decorate the roof and outline the building. (Retired Lifeguard Section Chief Mickey Gallagher)

Motion: The Board of Officers of the Venice Neighborhood Council requests that the City Attorney, (City Department overseeing assets?), the Mayor, the Department of Recreation and Parks, and Council District 11 contact LA County Supervisor Lindsay Horvath (or all) to ask that repairs of our Historic Cultural Monument: the Venice Lifeguard Station, be undertaken immediately to prevent further deterioration and prepare for the upcoming 2028 Olympics.

Maker  Seconded

Vote: (  Yes /  No /  Abstained /  Recused /  Ineligible )



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## NEW BUSINESS:

1. Proposal by Venice Oceanarium to build a pavilion on the end of the Venice Pier

Motion: The Board of Officers of the Venice Neighborhood Council supports the creation of the Venice Oceanarium museum pavilion, replacing the historic bait & tackle shop, on the end of the Venice Fishing Pier.

The museum will educate and enlighten the public to the wonders of the sea and ecosystems unique to the Southern California coast. The open concept Pavilion, will house specimens, artifacts, interactive exhibits and our integrative programming, which blends Marine Science and Art through experiential learning. Included is an observation hatch with state of the art water sampling equipment, live reef cam viewing and Citizen Scientist opportunities. [www.VeniceOceanarium.org/about](http://www.VeniceOceanarium.org/about)

Supporting Documents: Architectural Renderings & Estimated Budget

Maker  Seconded   
Vote: (  Yes /  No /  Abstained /  Recused /  Ineligible )

2. Restoration of Tammie Smith Ceramic Tiles on OFW Benches and bathroom walls.

Motion: The Board of Officers of the Venice Neighborhood Council requests that the Department of Recreation and Parks, the Department of Cultural Affairs and Council District 11 provide funding and permits for the fabrication of missing ceramic tiles and new, where possible, by Tammie Smith, and their installation on benches and bathrooms along OFW.

Supporting Documents: Images of the bench and bathroom tiles

Maker  Seconded   
Vote: (  Yes /  No /  Abstained /  Recused /  Ineligible )

## Meeting **ADJOURNED**

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, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by calling (213) 978-1551 or email: [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org)



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## **Public Posting of Agendas -**

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

- Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd., Venice, CA 90291
- [www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org)
- Receive agendas by email, subscribe to L.A. City's [Early Notification System \(ENS\)](#)

## **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](http://ethics.lacity.org/lobbying). For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or [ethics.commission@lacity.org](mailto:ethics.commission@lacity.org)

## **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 our website: [www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org) 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 the VNC Secretary, email at: [Secretary@VeniceNC.org](mailto:Secretary@VeniceNC.org).

## **Reconsideration and Grievance Process -**

For information on the NC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the NC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our website [www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org)