

VENICE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Board of Officers Meeting

Approved Minutes

Westminster Elementary School Auditorium

1010 Abbot Kinney Boulevard

Venice, California 90291

Monday, February 20, 2007

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

DeDe Audet called the meeting to order and reported the Agenda for the current meeting was not properly posted at all the posting locations according to the rules of the Brown Act. Stuart Oscars volunteered to take responsibility for posting the Agenda the future. DeDe Audet called for a show of hands by Board members; 11 were in favor of continuing; 1 abstained. Ivan Spiegel stated that he did not vote because this was not a proper meeting. Ivan Spiegel suggested that the stakeholders present be polled to obtain consent to proceed. By a show of hands, stakeholder consensus was that the meeting should proceed.

2. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Ira Koslow asked that item 8.C be postponed until the next meeting. DeDe Audet asked if there was any objection; none was raised.

Linda Lucks moved to approve the Agenda, as amended, with the removal of item 8.C; seconded by Yolanda Gonzalez.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor. The motion passed.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

DeDe Audet noted that since the Secretary was not present, no Minutes were submitted for approval.

4. TREASURERS REPORT

Ed Ferrer reported on the activities of the Budget Committee and noted that regular meetings have been scheduled for the first Thursday of the month. Mr. Ferrer noted that the budget for the next fiscal year is being considered and reviewed, and called attention to Community Improvement projects discussed on both

on the DONE and VNC websites.

5. SCHEDULED ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Ratification of the extension of the LADWP MOU

Challis Macpherson provided background information on the LADWP/Neighborhood Council Memorandum of Understanding. This issue will be deliberated and decided upon at the next meeting.

B. Report to the Board on the Envisionary Summit Task Force's Activities

Nadine Parkos reported on Envisionary Summit Task Force's mission and on the first meeting's activities. Ms. Parkos listed the goals for the next meeting, which will tentatively take place on March 25, April 15 or April 22, 2007. Ms. Parkos requested Board support.

C. Report to the Board on the Gail Goldberg Task Force's Activities

Stuart Oscars reported that the walk about is will take place on March 3, 2007.

D. Mayor's Big Sunday project, Input from the VNC

John Brady, West Area Director for Mayor Villaraigosa, described the 2006 Big Sunday event and noted that April 28-29, 2007 are this year's target dates for the community improvement event. Mr. Brady encouraged the VNC and stakeholders to participate in the 2007 event.

E. Stash Maleski report to the Board re: Public Art Walls in Venice

Stash Maleski referred to www.veniceartwalls.com and offered a contact phone number (310 535 7729) as resources for artists to obtain information that should be fully functional by March 25, 2007. Mr. Maleski described how the walls can be made available to artists that wish to display their art and the approval process by which artists can display their art. Mr. Maleski noted that another presentation to the Board may occur, to ask for support.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS & PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Sgt. Martin Espinosa introduced himself, described his job and provided contact information to Board members and stakeholders.

Jeffrey Solomon noted his intent to make a formal proposal that all Venice 501.3c's be allowed to post calendar information on the VNC web site.

Noel Weiss requested that stakeholders ask their LA Council representatives to support proposed ordinance 917 and that the LDSAP should be amended.

Caroline Rios, Oakwood/Millwood Neighborhood Committee representative, reported a recent Visioning meeting. Ms. Rios stated her intent to make a presentation at the next NC Board for support for a barbeque cook-off proposed to take place at the Oakwood Recreation Center in August 2007.

Linda Lucks requested that the VNC Board Meeting Agenda include monthly reports from the standing and

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ad hoc Committees She noted that an update on the two lawsuits pending regarding 4215 should be made, and that there are no changes for 4215. Ms. Lucks also noted that there was no information regarding the recent Town Hall and suggested that a Task Force be appointed to facilitate participation in the upcoming Big Sunday. Sylviane Dungan, Richard Myers, Jim Murez and Diana Pollard will assist Ms. Lucks in forming the Task Force. DeDe Audet stated that consideration of the appointment of a committee can take place at the next VNC meeting.

7. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. Administrative Committee

Mike Newhouse requested that the two items listed below be moved to the next VNC Board meeting.

- i. Confirmation of the appointment of Mike Newhouse as Chair of the Ad Hoc OFW Recycling Committee
- ii Confirmation of the appointment of Mike Newhouse as chair of the Ad Hoc "1st Fridays" Committee

B. LUPC

Joe Murphy commended the reports provided by LUPC on the individual items to be considered for the breadth of information provided.

i. 718 Oxford St., Proposed Roof Top Addition

Challis Macpherson noted the LUPC recommendation to deny support of the proposed addition, summarized in the LUPC report sent to Board members and posted on the VNC web site.

Yolanda Gonzalez took over as presiding officer.

Ira Koslow moved to accept the recommendation of the Land Use and Planning Committee to reject the project be upheld; seconded by Yolanda Gonzalez.

VOTE: Unanimous in favor. The motion passed.

ii 1136 Abbot Kinney Bl., Proposed EVO Restaurant, 1,111 sq ft

Challis Macpherson introduced Rob Stone, project presenter, noted that the the proposed project does involve an intensification of use and stated that Mr. Stone took it upon himself to secure an additional 20 parking spaces. Ms. Macpherson stated that LUPC voted 6 in favor; 2 opposed; 1 abstention to approve the project.

Michael King moved to not approve the Land Use and Planning Committee's recommendation to approve this project; seconded by Nadine Parkos.

VOTE: 6 in favor; 8 opposed. The motion failed.

Joe Murphy moved to accept the recommendation of the Land Use and Planning Committee in regard to 1136 Abbott Kinney Boulevard; seconded by Diana Pollard.

VOTE: 9 in favor; 6 opposed. The motion carried.

iii 812 Main St., Hotel, Commercial and Residential Development

Challis Macpherson referred to the unanimous Land Use and Planning Committee recommendation to approve this project and discussed the developer's efforts to incorporate input from the community.

Joe Murphy moved that the Board accept the recommendation of the Land Use and Planning Committee in regard to the 812 Main Street Hotel; seconded by Nadine Parkos.

VOTE: 15 in favor. The motion passed.

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iv 2337 McKinley Ave., Over Height Fence

Challis Macpherson summarized the issues raised regarding the request for a variance for an 8 foot high fence built without the requisite permit and does not comply with LAMC or Venice Coastal Zone Specific Plan, and noted that LUPC recommended to deny the application as presented and that the Fence Height Ordinance be strongly enforced. The vote was 5 to 4. Ms. Macpherson referred to the LAMC and an interim report from the Fences and Hedges Task Force.

Ivan Spiegel moved that the VNC Board approve the Land Use and Planning Committee recommendation to reject the variance application; seconded by Yolanda Gonzalez.

VOTE: 12 in favor; 3 opposed. The motion passed.

v 650 Indiana Ave, Proposed 3 unit Condo

Challis Macpherson reported the two presentations heard by LUPC in October 2006 and January 2007, and summarized the specific details of the development. Ms. Macpherson reported that CD 11's determination that it would support three units on the lot if the third unit was affordable. Ms. Macpherson read the recommendation by the LUPC, to support the project as presented, with one of the three units recognized as an affordable unit as specified by the Venice Coastal Zone Specific Plan with the condition that the developer bring a statement to the Venice Neighborhood Council that he will create an affordable unit, and noted that the LUPC vote in favor was 6 in favor; 0 opposed; 2 abstentions.

Collette Bailey moved to accept the recommendation of the Land Use and Planning Committee regarding Agenda Item 8.B.v ; seconded by Ed Ferrer.

VOTE: 13 in favor; 1 opposed; 1 abstention. The motion passed.

v Submission of Community Impact Statements by LUPC/VNC

Challis Macpherson reported that a 100 word or less Community Impact Statement can be submitted with any ratification for development projects. Ms. Macpherson noted that the Board's approval is required to implement this policy. Ms. Macpherson stated that the recommendation to consider the Community Impact Statement was made by Deana Stevenson, DONE representative.

Ivan Spiegel moved to allow the Land Use and Planning Committee Chair to write a Community Impact Statement reflecting the Board's decision on any projects that come before the Venice Neighborhood Council Board.

Ivan Spiegel withdrew his motion.

Richard Myers moved that the Neighborhood Council would submit appropriate motions as Community Impact Statements and that the Community Impact Statement language must be approve by the Board; seconded by Ivan Spiegel

Ivan Spiegel moved to postpone the decision until the next meeting; seconded by ...

VOTE: 7 in favor; 5 opposed; 3 abstentions.

C. Education Committee

i Issues Concerning Poor Safety Scores at Venice Schools

Tabled.

D. Graffiti Committee

i. Report to the Board on the Committees Activities

Rand Denny stated that Pacific Graffiti Solutions have not been removing graffiti as reported. Mr. Denny is storing paint in his garage because no other storage space is available, that the graffiti removal trucks are being ticketed and that funds have been made available to purchase a graffiti removal truck full time for Venice. Mr. Denny referred four action items from his committee and noted that the highest priority is being given to education; the other items are protection for trees on Ocean Front Walk; establishment of a Venice specific graffiti removal hotline; graffiti removal outreach materials (to be supported by area businesses). Mr. Denny stated that the next meeting is scheduled for March 4, 2007.

Rand Denny's efforts were commended by Board members and stakeholders.

6. ANNOUNCEMENTS & PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None noted.

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7. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned by common consent.