



Venice Neighborhood Council

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

AD HOC Committee on Mass and Scale

Thursday, December 6, 2012

Venice Community Housing Corp

720 Rose Ave, Venice CA 90291

7:30 – 9:00 pm

MISSION STATEMENT: The Mass, Scale, and Character Ad hoc Committee will study the application of requirements for new development in the Coastal Zone to be compatible with existing neighborhoods in mass, scale, and character as mandated by the VCZSP and related planning documents. It will meet with, and solicit input from residents of the Venice Coastal Zone, city officials, and other interested and relevant people in order to research standards and protocols by which these issues may be evaluated in new Coastal Development Projects in order to implement the intent and letter of the governing planning documents in the most fair and practical manner. The conclusions of this Committee will be reported directly to the Venice Neighborhood Council Board. The Committee shall automatically terminate after one year or the seating of a new VNC Board, whichever occurs first.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call (7:30 PM)
Present: Dede Audet, Joe Clark, Sarah Dennison, Brian Finney, Sue Kaplan
2. Welcome : We welcomed Dede Audet to the committee
3. Public Comment (5 minutes, 1 min. per speaker)
4. Administrative (10 min.)
 - a. Status with VNC: Our motion to continue has been submitted
 - b. Meeting place: still looking for a permanent home
5. Study and Discussion of Santa Barbara Mass, Scale Report (30 minutes) – discussion, possible action
[File: Size_Bulk_Scale.pdf] is a Santa Barbara Position Paper to support the writing of their Residential Design Guidelines. It discusses the terms mass, scale and bulk and gives alternate definitions for each. We discussed the various definitions for each term. Liked that they brought in “human scale” as part of the definitions; felt that mass and bulk could be defined together.
Action: each of us will come back with a definition of our own with goal that we can compose definitions for Venice.
6. Study and Discussion of Venice Coastal Zone Specific Plan (discussion, 20 min.) – postponed to another meeting
7. Discuss next meeting’s documents (10 min) : will add the Baseline Mansionization Ordinance to next meeting’ discussion



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8. Continued Discussion on Goals & Procedure (discussion, possible action, 20 min.)
 - a. Documents : continue looking at various documents
 - b. Method of working as a whole, in groups of 2? : Decided to take field trips to the different coastal zone areas; take pictures of exemplary homes and discuss what we feel works and why; see if our definitions represent what we are looking for
 - c. What would our solution look like? Understand our goal is to give direction to the Board and LUPC to make it possible for them to make judgments on discretionary findings; may look like a Policy Paper with definitions, suggestions and directions
9. Meeting: Next meeting Jan 24; looking for a location
10. Adjourn 9:00 PM