



Venice Neighborhood Council

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



Questions:

Please limit your answers to the 5 questions below to 200 words or less each.

1) Please explain why you wish to serve on the Neighborhood Committee:

I have owned a home (a duplex, actually) in Venice with my partner/husband, Dale Von Seggern, since 2000. Prior to that, I was a renter in the late 90's. Having lived in other parts of L.A., I chose Venice – or did it choose me? – because Dale and I both love the diversity and the creative spirit which pervades every alley and byway. We are both stakeholders and have always followed the news of the VNC, especially as the neighborhood has undergone rapid change in the last ten years.

I work for L.A. Theatre Works (located at Beyond Baroque) which is only four blocks from my home (how's that for an easy commute?) so I spend literally 90% or more of my time right here in Venice. I love it here and feel a need to "give back" – and am aware that Venice has "growing pains" as well as local neighborhood issues that need to be addressed as a community. I'd like to be a part of that process, and that's why I'm interested in joining the Neighborhood Committee.

I look forward to it!

2) Please describe your previous and/or current neighborhood or community involvement:

Living in proximity to our Venice Library, I've become a "friend of the Venice Library"; I have attended Venice Chamber of Commerce meetings on behalf of my company, L.A. Theatre Works; have on occasion served dinner to the homeless in transition at PATH (People Assisting the Homeless) and am active in my local church, St. Paul's Lutheran in Santa Monica, where I have served multiple terms on the board. I am also active in ELM (Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries), a national Lutheran organization that promotes gay and lesbian clergy, serving on their scholarship and development committees.

3) In your opinion what are the three most pressing issues facing the Venice Community?

The homeless that are our invisible neighbors, parking, development



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- 4) The Neighborhood Committee is tasked with promoting awareness of available City resources and services by acting as a conduit between the Board and Venice neighborhoods, assisting in community outreach and bringing neighborhood issues to the attention of the Board.**

What are your suggestions for effectively fulfilling this obligation?

Marc tells me that the Venice-Windward area has never been organized, so I would begin with outreaching to my immediate neighbors to gather their information. Beyond that, I would concentrate on speaking to neighbors as I see them in my area (I walk the area a LOT), distribute flyers inviting residents to send names and emails to me; posting on outreach on Facebook sights, such as Spirit of Venice, to locate people in my area. While this could take some months, it would gradually open a wider avenue of communication so I could learn the issues that my neighbors are concerned with – especially as they get to know who I am.

Beyond that, I would see the guidance of the committee.

- 5) Do you have a vision for Venice? If so, please describe:**

I want to see Venice maintain its diversity and creativity as a community without losing its compassion for the less fortunate that roam our streets, even as we face problems presented by development, growth, and a high influx of visitors.

- 6) Please list all committees, groups, organizations schools churches, agencies, with which you have regular communication.**

Venice Library
Venice Chamber.
Westside Food Bank
L.A. Theatre Works
Beyond Baroque
AIDS Healthcare Foundation
LA Gay/Lesbian Center
Sierra Club
Extraordinary Lutheran Ministries
St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Santa Monica

Thank You for Volunteering to Help Our Community!