

Grass Roots Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294

Rules and Elections Committee

Regular Meeting

Where: Extra Space Storage, 658 Venice Blvd
Presidents Row Room

When: Tuesday, January 24, 2006 at 7pm



Minutes

1. Call to Order @ 7:15pm
2. Roll Call

Committee Members: *Richard Myers (chair), Ivan Spiegel, Joe Murphy, Liz Wright, Dante Cacace, David Buchanan*

Members In Attendance: *Joe Murphy, Dante Cacace, Richard Myers (chair)*

Stakeholders Present: *Keith Harrison and Chris Williams.*

New Members: *David Buchanan was invited to join the Rules and Elections Committee prior to the meeting to help liaison with the Bylaws Committee on election issues. Keith Harrison volunteered after the meeting and was accepted as a member to lend his experience with committee procedural issues.*

3. Discussion and Take Action on January 17th Election Results

a. Review District 2 Results

- *Confirm or replace Susan Papadakis to fill the vacant District 2 Board seat. – CONFIRMED 105 ballots total: Confirm - 90 ballots, Reject - 5 ballots (Jim Murez - 1 vote, Chris Williams - 1 vote, not specified - 3 votes), Blank - 10 ballots*

b. Review Bylaws Results

- *Ratify or reject the GRVNC Board's unanimous decision to amend the GRVNC Bylaws to permit General Election meetings to be held in September rather than June: -- RATIFIED 105 ballots total: Confirm - 90 ballots, Reject - 9 ballots, Blank - 6 ballots*

c. Address Election Challenges

- *As per the IEA Dante Cacace, no election challenges were filed.*

d. Certify Election Results

- *Election results certified by unanimous consent. Letter to be drafted to DONE asking for certification of new Bylaws and Board member.*
- *Chair charged with contacting DONE to communicate results and request certification of Bylaws change and new Board member appointment.*

For more information: see www.grvnc.org or e-mail info@grvnc.org or phone [310.399.5515](tel:310.399.5515)

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4. Discussion and Take Action on Selan Grievance

a. Review DONE and GRVNC grievance procedures

Mr. Selan spoke about his grievances, which were filed as four separate items with DONE and sent to the GRVNC beginning on or before November 2005. The committee considered also a fax received from Deanna Stevenson (from DONE) containing the grievances filed by Mr. Selan and emails received by the GRVNC Board.

b. Determine concise statement of grievance and requested remedies

Chair worked to consolidate Mr. Selan's grievances into a list of issues that fell within the power of the GRVNC Board to correct. Comments and clarifications were solicited from the committee and Mr. Selan. Although not exhaustive, it is hoped that this list addresses the most pressing grievances of Mr. Selan. Summary "Grievance Report" attached after these minutes.

c. Decide on recommendation and/or referral to Board

Proposed remedies and recommended actions were arrived at by unanimous consent of the committee members present. See summary "Grievance Report" attached after these minutes.

5. Discussion and Take Action on Standing Rules

a. Meeting Timeline

No action taken.

b. Outreach and Notices

No action taken.

c. Executive Committee Procedures

No action taken.

6. Adjourned: 9:30pm

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Grievance Report

Author: Richard Myers, Chair

Date: January 28, 2006

On January 24, 2006, the Rules and Elections Committee reviewed Mr. Selan's submitted grievances and discussed them with Mr. Selan. The following specific grievances and possible remedies were identified and the committee further decided by unanimous consent to suggest to the Board a preferred remedy for each from the possible remedies discussed. These issues were selected from Mr. Selan's complete list of grievances with the goal of identifying important issues that fall within the power of the Board to address.

1. Mr. Selan requested a Grievance Committee be established pursuant to Article V.C. of the GRVNC Bylaws.

C. Grievance: Any GRVNC Community Stakeholder who is adversely affected by a decision of the GRVNC may submit a written Grievance to any member of the Board of Officers. The Board of Officers (or a sub-committee thereof, if so designated by the Board) shall review the Grievance at either a regular Board of Officers meeting or a specially called meeting. The complainant shall be notified no less than four (4) days prior to this meeting in order that she/he may attend. The Board shall resolve the Grievance or take appropriate action and shall advise the complainant of its determination.

Options:

- a. Establish a grievance committee
- b. Allow the full Board to make a determination (recommended)

2. Mr. Selan questioned the process and choice of appointment of GRVNC parliamentarian.

Options:

- a. Confirm that Roberts Rules of Order gives the Chair power to decide rules of Order and receive advice on such issues from a volunteer Parliamentarian. (Recommended)
- b. Suggest Rules Committee add language such as the following to the standing rules used by the Board:

"If deemed necessary, the Board President may appoint a Parliamentarian for a duration not to exceed the Board President's terms of office. The duties of the Parliamentarian shall be (a) to advise the President on parliamentary procedure, and (b) to serve as Parliamentarian for the meetings of the Board. The Parliamentarian may be asked to serve as a consultant to any standing or ad-hoc committees. The Parliamentarian may be reappointed or dismissed at the discretion of the Board President."

3. Mr. Selan requested the Secretary make available the audiotape of the December 8 GRVNC Executive Committee Meeting.

Options:

- a. Instruct the Secretary as a courtesy to make this tape available, but in no way require that these minutes be archived on a permanent basis. Reasonable duplication costs should also be required from Mr. Selan. (Recommended)
- b. Deny access to audio recordings and refer Mr. Selan to approved minutes only.

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4. Mr. Selan disputes the appointment the chair of the Education Committee because a community submitted proposal presented by Mr. Selan and others was lost and/or not properly considered by the Executive Committee.

Options:

- a. Ask Executive Committee and Board to reconsider appointment of chair of the Executive Committee.
 - b. Ask the Education Committee to consider the community Education Committee proposal in question and possibly incorporate portions, as the committee deems appropriate. **(Recommended)**
 - c. No reconsideration of chair or referrals to the Education Committee.
5. Mr. Selan asserts that a December 14, 2005, Education Committee meeting was not properly noticed as per Brown Act requirements.

Options:

- a. Because no such meeting took place, no harm was done and no action need be taken. **(Recommended)**
 - b. Education Committee met on December 14, 2005, but the chair posted adequate notice so no action required.
 - c. Education met on December 14, 2005, and notice was not given by the chair so all decisions must be reconsidered.
6. On December 16, 2005, Mr. Selan visited the Vera Davis Center and found no postings for upcoming GRVNC meetings in violation of the Brown Act 72 hour posting requirement.

Communication's Officer Note: remaining meetings after December 16th were as follows:

- Rules and Elections Committee, December 28
- Communications and Outreach, December 17
- Disaster Preparedness, December 29

Options:

- a. Invalidate decisions of December 17, 2005, Communications and Outreach committee meeting due to lack of proper posting. All other meetings more then 72 hour after December 16 assumed to meet requirement. **(Recommended)**
- b. Decide that sufficient notice existed and thus decisions of the Communications and Outreach committee should be upheld. All other meetings more then 72 hour after December 16 assumed to meet requirement.

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