

**Grass Roots Venice Neighborhood Council
Bylaws Committee February 22, 2006 Meeting Minutes**

- 1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER AT 7:15 PM.**
- 2. ATTENDANCE:** Bylaws Committee Members present – LJ Carusone (Committee Chair) presiding, Colette Bailey, Eileen Pollack Erickson, Ivan Spiegel, Jodi Gusek, Joe Murphy, Lisa M. Ezell, Steve Freedman, Stewart Oscars, Susan Rennie. Absent –David Buchanan, David Moring, Greg Fitchitt, Thomas O’Meara. Also attending – Dante Cacace, Dennis Hathaway.
- 3. MINUTES:** The minutes from 02-02-20 meeting were not reviewed.
- 4. PRESENTATION TASK FORCE REPORT**
 - i. Review presentation materials/order**
 - ii. Choose presenters for Feb. 28, 2006 additional GRVNC board meeting**

LJ Carusone: Directs attention to Presentation Task Force report.

Jodi Gusek: She can’t be at the presentation on February 28th.

(**LJ Carusone, Jodi Gusek, Stewart Oscars, and Challis Macpherson** provide the presentation report)

Stewart Oscars: We have made it more orderly and precise.

Scribe Note: In order to avoid confusion, the minutes will use the terms used as edited by the committee rather than the terms used in the unedited version presented by Jodi Gusek. Both versions are attached for comparison purposes:

060222Bylaws Committee - grvnc_presentation_slides-TaskForceDraft.ppt

060222Bylaws Committee - grvnc_presentation_slides-CommitteeEditedVersion.ppt

There was much editing that was not noted, some of which revealed interesting rationales for selected edits. Some of the interesting rationales are included in these minutes below.

Jodi Gusek: The Task Force drafted a handout and 5 PowerPoint slides:

1. Status quo → 7 at-large & 1 district positions → 15 votes/voter
2. 7 ‘2-rep’ districts → 1 vote for 1 of 2 positions → 8 votes/voter
3. 14 ‘1-rep’ districts → 1 vote for 1 position → 8 votes/voter
4. 14 at-large → 1 vote for 1 of 14 positions → 8 votes/voter
5. Comparison of 3 non-status quo options.

The handout is entitled GRVNC Bylaws Committee Background and the slide presentation is called Bylaws Committee Proposals.

The unedited and edited versions are set forth in separate .ppt files:

060222Bylaws Committee Minutes - grvnc_presentation_slides-CommitteeEditedFinalVersion.ppt

060222Bylaws Committee Minutes - grvnc_presentation_slides-TaskForceDraft.ppt

At this point, **Jodi Gusek** gave the presentation of the GRVNC Bylaws Committee Background.

(Discussion, selectively noted by scribe, begins)

Ivan Spiegel: Questions narrow basis for changing bylaws as reflected in first bulleted item – fear that this will not be a sufficient reason for changing the bylaws. The reason for changing the bylaws is not limited to resolving the conflicts between the 2004 Stakeholder and Board amendments.

Susan Rennie: Clarifies **Ivan Spiegel** concern that basis for amending the Bylaws was broader than indicated.

LJ Carusone: I've been asked questions about why we need to make any changes.

Susan Rennie: Suggested language indicating that an initiative in 2004 challenged the assumption that the 2001 Bylaws were adequate.

LJ Carusone: The 2001 GRVNC was created from Bylaws under which the current Board operates.

Dante Cacace: Go back to two years of town hall meetings in which the 2001 Bylaws were created.

(**Dennis Hathaway** arrives)

Steve Freedman: At the beginning, citywide rules gave a broad framework.

LJ Carusone: Not true – we had no guide.

Ivan Spiegel: Perhaps we can indicate that the Bylaws contained problems.

(Discussion resulted in the adoption of the edited version of the GRVNC Bylaws Committee Background by consensus)

Steve Freedman: Reminds committee of the value of keeping it short.

Susan Rennie: Reiterates the need to state a broad reason for the formation of the Bylaws Committee.

(Discussion focused on an in-depth questioning of the assumptions about the value of districts in providing adequate representation and generating voter interest. After some discussion and editing of the Bylaws Committee Proposals, this too was approved by consensus.)

Ivan Spiegel: Moves:

That the presentation include Stakeholder Status and Board Composition.

Joe Murphy: Seconds the motion.

For	9
Opposed	0
Abstain	0

Motion passes

(Discussion ends)

- 6. NEXT MEETING AND AGENDA:** Committee decides to meet next on Monday, February 27, 2006 at 7PM at Extra Space Storage. The agenda for the next meeting is to complete the review of the LUPC component.
- 7. ADJOURNMENT:** 9:15pm motion by chair to adjourn is passed by consensus.