



# Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / [www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org)  
Email: [info@VeniceNC.org](mailto:info@VeniceNC.org) Phone: 310-421-8627



## **Board of Officers Meeting Agenda** **Oakwood Recreation Center** 767 California Avenue (at 7th), Venice, 90291 Tuesday, August 16, 2011 at **6:00 PM**

**BOARD MEETINGS:** The Venice Neighborhood Council holds its regular meetings on the third Tuesday of the month and may also call any additional required special meetings in accordance with its Bylaws and the Brown Act. All are welcome to attend.

**TRANSLATION Services:** Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de notificar a la oficina 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Si necesita asistencia con esta notificación, por favor llame a nuestra oficina 213.473.5391.

**POSTING:** The agenda and *non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board members in advance of regular and special meetings may be viewed* at Groundworks Coffee (671 Rose Ave.), Penmar Park (1341 Lake St), Beyond Baroque (681 Venice Blvd), the Venice Library (501 S. Venice Blvd), Oakwood Recreation Center (767 California St.), The Venice Ale House (425 Ocean Front Walk), and the VNC website (<http://www.venicenc.org>), or at the scheduled meeting. For a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact the VNC secretary at [secretary@venicenc.org](mailto:secretary@venicenc.org).

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** The public is requested to fill out a "**Speaker Card**" to address the Board on any Old or New Business item on the agenda and the Treasurer's Report. Comments from the public on these agenda items will be heard only when that item is being considered. Comments from the public on other agenda matters or on matters not appearing on the agenda but within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to two (2) minutes per speaker, unless modified by the presiding officer of the Board. No new speaker cards will be accepted once Public Comment has begun.

**DISABILITY POLICY:** The Venice Neighborhood Council complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and does not discriminate on the basis of any disability. Upon request, the Venice Neighborhood Council will provide reasonable accommodations to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request.

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
2. **Approval of the Agenda**
3. **Approval of Outstanding Board Minutes**  
May 24, 2011, July 19, 2011, & July 28, 2011  
<http://venicenc.org/files/110719VNCBoardMeetingMinutes.doc>  
<http://venicenc.org/files/110621JDMVNCBoardMeetingMinutes.doc>  
<http://venicenc.org/files/110524VNCBoardMeetingMinutes1.doc>

### **Announcements & Public Comment on items not on the Agenda**

**[5 speakers, no more than 1 minute per person – no Board member announcements permitted]**



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4. **Public Safety- LAPD Report (5 minutes):** Senior Lead Officers Peggy Thusing/Theresa Skinner/Gregg Jacobus, (310-622-3968; [25120@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:25120@lapd.lacity.org), [35162@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:35162@lapd.lacity.org), [31142@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:31142@lapd.lacity.org))

5. **Scheduled Announcements (5 Minutes):**

Neighborhood Committee Vacancies

This committee promotes greater awareness of available City resources and services and acts as a conduit between the Board and Venice neighborhoods, assisting in community outreach and bringing neighborhood issues to the attention of the Board. Please contact Carolyn Rios, [vp@venicenc.org](mailto:vp@venicenc.org) for further information.

6. **Consent Calendar**

*[No discussion or Public Comment. Items may be removed and it will go to the end of the agenda]*

- A **Support Main Street Diet Plan;** Kristopher Valentine on behalf of the Environmental Committee ([Kristopher.valentine@venicenc.org](mailto:Kristopher.valentine@venicenc.org))

**MOTION:** Whereas Main Street from Winward north to the city limit is currently configured with two travel lanes northbound, two travel lanes southbound, separated only by a center line stripe with no turn pockets provided, and automobile parking is provided on both sides of the street as well, and

Whereas the current design is auto-centric and inconsistent with the Venice Neighborhood Council's vision goals, and

Whereas the LA City Department of Transportation has proposed reducing the number of travel lanes on Main Street to one lane in each direction in order to provide for new bicycle lanes in the north and south bound direction. The proposal would also create a center-striped median area that would effectively serve as left-turn pocket for motorists traveling from Main Street to adjacent side streets, thereby reducing the potential for rear-end collisions and ultimately making the street safer for all users. There would be no loss or change to the existing automobile parking.

Therefore the Venice Neighborhood Council supports the LADOT proposal for the Main Street Diet, which will encourage and improve mobility (biking and walking) in the community.

- B **113 Vista Place, Venice, CA 90291 - 3-phase project to add 2-car garage and space to existing rear unit; ZA-2010-875-ZV-ZAA-SPP and ENV-2010-876-CE** (Jake Kaufman on behalf of LUPC) ([jake.kaufman@venicenc.org](mailto:jake.kaufman@venicenc.org))

**MOTION:** Whereas existing conditions require the applicant to phase their project encorder to maintain their non-conforming rights;

Whereas the existing buildings have enjoyed reduced setbacks since the early 1900's;



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Whereas the abutting neighbors on both sides have similar setback and height conditions;  
Whereas parking in the neighborhood is very limited and the proposed project will reduce this impact by creating two new parking stalls without reducing public parking.

Approve the project, with the following conditions:

- 1) The 2nd floor balcony will be deleted from the design (not permitted)
- 2) The kitchen window shall be relocated to provide more privacy between the project and adjacent neighbor.
- 3) The ground floor shall be limited to garage or storage use only and not a habitable room.
- 4) Any garage door shall be recessed and located a minimum of 5 feet from the alley property line.

LUPC: Made by Jay Goldberg  
Seconded by Robert Aronson  
Vote 7-0, Unanimous

**7. Old Business**

*[Discussion and possible action regarding the following matters]*

- A Presentation and discussion only of one of four motions made by Councilman Krekorian regarding the role of DONE (10 minutes); Ivan Spiegel ([parliamentarian@venicenc.org](mailto:parliamentarian@venicenc.org))**

**Announcements & Public Comment on items not on the Agenda**

*[5 speakers, no more than 1 minute per person – no Board member announcements permitted]*

**8. New Business**

*[Discussion and possible action regarding the following matters]*

- A Close nominations and hear statements from candidates for vacant Community Officer position (30 Minutes); Linda Lucks ([president@venicenc.org](mailto:president@venicenc.org)): [EXHIBIT A]**

Call for nominations & close of nominations.

- Current Candidates:
- Grant Burton
- Julia Rose Fischer
- Michael Jensen
- Barbara Lonsdale
- Elle Molchan
- Colleen Saro



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Each candidate will have 3 minutes to:

a. introduce him/herself - a general statement including qualifications and why s/he is interested in serving on the Board.

b . if you did not submit written responses to the following three questions, include the answers in this introductory statement.

1. A community officer is required to attend the monthly Board meeting on the third Tuesday of each month, four Town Hall meetings an year, an annual Board retreat and active participation on at least one committee. The committees are listed here. <http://venicenc.org/Committees>). Have you ever served on a VNC committee or have you been a board officer? With this in mind, what committee(s) would you envision working on, and why? If your interest is in forming a new committee, please describe what you envision.

2. Board members are asked to occasionally staff the VNC table at the weekly Friday Farmer's Market for an hour (if possible), and to be the conduit for information on VNC activities with neighbors and friends in Venice. Are you able and willing to be the conduit of information? Do you have any special skills you would bring to the board?

3. The Venice Specific Plan has been the blueprint for land development since 2000. The VNC is asked to consider variance requests and other modifications to the VSP. Keeping in mind that this is one of the more controversial issues in Venice, please read it and be prepared to tell us your insights and thoughts about the VSP (<http://venicenc.org/files/VenCoastal.pdf>) and how it should be enforced (strictly, loosely, etc).

The Board election will take place at the next Board meeting on September 20<sup>th</sup>. Board members have two weeks from today to submit questions to the REC Chair [ira.koslow@venicenc.org](mailto:ira.koslow@venicenc.org) for the candidates to answer. The candidates have one week to send their answers to the REC chair who will forward the questions and responses to the Board and post them on the website one week in advance of the September meeting.

The candidate elected by the Board is immediately seated at the September meeting.

**B** **LAUSD to Consider Charter Operator Applicants' Quality for Walgrove Elementary (20 Minutes)**; Cindy Chambers ([chambers.cindy@gmail.com](mailto:chambers.cindy@gmail.com))

**MOTION:** Whereas, LAUSD will soon release an RFP for prospective charter operators to lease land on the Walgrove Elementary School campus; and

Whereas, there are multiple public elementary school options in the area;



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Therefore, be it resolved that the Venice Neighborhood Council recommends that the LAUSD consider first and foremost the applicant's capacity and ability to address the needs of middle schoolers in the RFP evaluation process.

**C** **Support Ocean Charter School (20 Minutes)**; Birgitte Hellsten ([agreatdane@me.com](mailto:agreatdane@me.com))

**[EXHIBIT B]**

**MOTION:** Whereas Ocean Charter School was co-founded by several Venice and Mar Vista parents, is currently attended by 51 Venice families and 78 Mar Vista families, and is and has co-located in classrooms on the Venice-adjacent Walgrove Elementary campus in Mar Vista for the last 4.5 years granted them by the Los Angeles Unified School District, and

Whereas the Los Angeles Unified School District has recently issued an Intent to Lease unused space on the Walgrove Elementary campus to a charter school, and

Whereas the selection of a charter school other than Ocean Charter School will result in the eviction of children currently attending school on the campus and potential disruption of children's education in a leading local public school.

Be it resolved that the Venice Neighborhood Council Board shall send a letter to the Los Angeles Unified District Board Of Education containing the following language:

While the Venice Neighborhood Council may or may not support any Charter school co-occupying the Walgrove campus, should it be mandated that a school be on that site, we support the continuation of Ocean Charter School's co-occupation. We are concerned about any disruption to the education of Venice children that may result from dislocating students from attending school on the Walgrove Elementary campus.

**D** **Resolution Opposing Reduction of Public Parking in Marina Del Rey (20 Minutes)**; Marc Saltzberg on behalf of the Visitor Impact Ad Hoc Committee ([outreach@VeniceNC.org](mailto:outreach@VeniceNC.org))

**[EXHIBIT C]**

**MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends that the City of Los Angeles:

1. Oppose the conversion of parcels OT, FF, GG/ 52 and NR in Marina Del Rey from their current use as public parking lots to other uses,
2. Oppose any amendment of the Marina Del Rey LCP that reduces public parking in Marina Del Rey,
3. Testify before the California Coastal Commission requesting that it deny the Marina Del Rey LCP Amendment proposed by Los Angeles County



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**E** **Resolution Rejecting MDR Redevelopment Project Traffic Study (20 Minutes)**; Marc Saltzberg on behalf of the Visitor Impact Ad Hoc Committee ([outreach@VeniceNC.org](mailto:outreach@VeniceNC.org))

**[EXHIBIT D]**

**MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends that until such a time that:

1. a comprehensive traffic study for the Marina Del Rey Development Project is conducted that cures the deficiencies found in the April 2010 traffic study, analyses the regional impacts ignored by the April 2010 traffic study and
2. all mitigation measures are evaluated by *both* Los Angeles County and the City of Los Angeles and included in the Marina Del Rey Redevelopment Project Plans,

the City of Los Angeles request that Los Angeles County halt permitting activities for new Marina Del Rey Redevelopment Project construction; that Los Angeles County comply with the City's request; and that the California Coastal Commission reject the County's Local Coastal Plan Amendment.

**F** **Oppose Commercial Bidding on Beach and Surf Camp Permits (10 Minutes)**; Patrick Murphy on behalf of the Coalition for Safe Beaches ([pat@learntosurfla.com](mailto:pat@learntosurfla.com)) **[EXHIBIT E]**

**MOTION:** The VNC opposes any modification(s) proposed to the existing regulations regarding beach use by beach and surf camp operators that would introduce a bidding element, or otherwise increase the costs associated with running such operations.

**G** **Renewal of Santa Monica Airport Ad Hoc Committee (5 Minutes)**; Amanda Seward on behalf of the Santa Monica Airport Ad Hoc Committee ([amandaseward@artvista.net](mailto:amandaseward@artvista.net)) **[EXHIBIT F]**

**MOTION:** To renew Santa Monica Airport Ad Hoc Committee for one year or until the seating of a newly elected Board, whichever occurs soonest.

## 9 LUPC Motions

**A** **42-44 Ozone Avenue, Venice, CA 90291 – New Single Family Dwelling - Cases: ZA-2011-754-ZAA; DIR-2010-2718-SPP-MEL; ENV-2010-2719-CE (10 Minutes)** (Jake Kaufman on behalf of LUPC) ([jake.kaufman@venicenc.org](mailto:jake.kaufman@venicenc.org))

**MOTION:** The VNC Board of Officers shall

1. Deny the request for relief from Mello Act
2. Deny request for 5ft front-yard setback and approve 10ft front-yard setback
3. Approve side yard setback from 4-ft to 3-ft.



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- 10 Treasurers Report (5 minutes);** Hugh Harrison **[EXHIBIT G]**  
*[Discussion and possible action to approve financial statements and expenditures]*

**MOTION:** The VNC approves the submitted financial statements for the period July 1 through July 21, 2011.

**11 Governmental Reports (15 min)**

- **U.S. Representative Office,**
- **State Assemblyperson Betsy Butler,** Representative, Stephanie Molen([Stephanie.Molen@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Molen@asm.ca.gov))
- **Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa;** Joseph Hari, West Area Representative (310-479-3823) ([Joseph.Hari@lacity.org](mailto:Joseph.Hari@lacity.org))
- **City Councilperson Bill Rosendahl:** Cecilia Castillo, Field Deputy (310-568-8772); [Cecilia.castillo@lacity.org](mailto:Cecilia.castillo@lacity.org); Arturo Pina, District Director, [Arturo.Pina@lacity.org](mailto:Arturo.Pina@lacity.org);
- **Westside Regional Alliance of Councils:** Mike Newhouse, President ([mnewhouse@newhouseseroussi.com](mailto:mnewhouse@newhouseseroussi.com)); Alternate, Carolyn Rios;
- **PlancheckNC:** VNC Rep Challis Macpherson ([Challis.Macpherson@Verizon.net](mailto:Challis.Macpherson@Verizon.net))
- **LA Dept of Water & Power/Memoranda of Understanding:** VNC Rep DeDe Audet ([daudet@ca.rr.com](mailto:daudet@ca.rr.com))
- **LAPD Community Police Advisory Board:** Nicolas Hippisley-Coxe, ([hippisley@earthlink.net](mailto:hippisley@earthlink.net), Daffodil Tyminski)
- **LA Alliance of NC's Representative:** Ivan Spiegel, ([parliamentarian@venicenc.org](mailto:parliamentarian@venicenc.org))

**12 Scheduled Announcements (20 Minutes)**

- **President:** Linda Lucks ([president@venicenc.org](mailto:president@venicenc.org))
- **Vice President:** Carolyn Rios ([VP@venicenc.org](mailto:VP@venicenc.org))
- **VNC Website Update,** Scot K

**Announcements & Public Comment on items not on the Agenda**  
*[20 minutes, no more than 1 minute per person – no Board member announcements permitted]*

- 13 Board Member Comments on subject matters within the VNC jurisdiction.**  
[10 min, no more than 1 minute per person]

- 14 Adjourn** (approx. 9:30PM)



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## **List of Venice Neighborhood Council Committees & Chairs – Volunteers Welcome**

### **Administrative**

Linda Lucks

### **Neighborhood**

Carolyn Rios

### **Outreach**

Marc Saltzberg

### **Budget**

Hugh Harrison

### **Land Use and Planning**

Jake Kaufman

### **Rules & Elections**

Ira Koslow

### **Arts**

Clark McCutchen, Cynthia Rogers

### **Santa Monica Airport**

### **Visitor Impact**

### **Ocean Front Walk**

### **Public Safety**

### **Education**

### **Environment**

Laura Silagi & Amanda Seward

Amanda Seward

Ivonne Guzman, Ira Koslow

Nicolas Hippisley-Coxe, Daffodil Tyminski

Barbara Lonsdale, Kristopher Valentine