



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / www.VeniceNC.org
Email: info@VeniceNC.org



Administrative Committee Meeting Minutes - DRAFT

Extra Space Storage, Presidents Row Room
658 South Venice Blvd, Venice, 90291
Tuesday, September 13, 2011 at 7:00 PM

NOTE: All ACTIONS TAKEN, unless otherwise noted, were decided by unanimous vote and the chair abstained.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present: Linda Lucks; Carolyn Rios, Chair; Ira Koslow; Joe Murphy; Cindy Chambers; Hugh Harrison; Kristopher Valentine.
Absent: Daffodil Tyminski.

2. Approval of the Administrative Committee Agenda

ADCOM ACTION TAKEN Approved as amended

3. Approval of outstanding Administrative Committee minutes

August 8, 2011 (<http://venicenc.org/files/110808VNCAAdministrativeCommitteeMinutes.pdf>)

ADCOM ACTION TAKEN Approved

4. Announcements & Public Comment on items not on the Agenda

5. Old Administrative Committee Business

A **Methods to make the Board meetings run more quickly:** Ivan Spiegel
(parliamentarian@venicenc.org)

ADCOM ACTION TAKEN Continued to October 10, 2011 Administrative Committee Meeting

B **Motion to postpone La Fortuna Market business** : Jake Kaufman,
(Jake.Kaufman@Venicenc.org)

ADCOM ACTION TAKEN Remanded to LUPC

C **Ad Com Administrative Concern:** Kristopher Valentine
(kristopher.valentine@venice.org) & Ivan Spiegel (parliamentarian@venicenc.org)

1. Request to have 72 hours to prepare Ad Com Agendas by changing the standing rule (that submissions go to the Secretary the Wednesday before Ad Com).

ADCOM ACTION TAKEN Continued to October 10, 2011 Administrative Committee Meeting

2. Discussion about limiting items on the Board agenda to reduce length of meetings

ADCOM ACTION TAKEN Continued to October 10, 2011 Administrative Committee Meeting

3. Discussion for future :Reevaluate procedures to answer and follow up to e-mails, phone calls, maintaining website, eblasts, agendas, minutes, preparing for meetings, posting communications and letters, pick up mail.

ADCOM ACTION TAKEN Recommend prepare budget request with job description

6. New Administrative Committee Business

A **Preliminary Discussion re: Next NC Election Timing** (20 Minutes) Marc Saltzberg on behalf of the Outreach Committee (outreach@VeniceNC.org)



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1) Discussion of next NC Election Timing - with possible AdCom action to invite City Clerk to present status of next NC elections:

Background: The City Council has instructed the **City Clerk to hold Regional Meetings** around the City to discuss the possibility of alternative elections. The meeting on the Westside is **Sept. 19, 2011 TIME: 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. @ Westwood Recreation Center**

ADCOM ACTION TAKEN Referred to REC

B **Discussion about procedure for responding to CPRA requests** Ivan Spiegel
(parliamentarian@venicenc.org)

The VNC needs to create a legal procedure for responding to CPRA requests.

ADCOM ACTION TAKEN Continued to October 10, 2011 Administrative Committee Meeting

C **Consideration and approval of September 20, 2011 Proposed Board Agenda**

ADCOM ACTION TAKEN Proposed board agenda approved as amended

7. Announcements & Public Comment on items not on the Agenda

8. Adjourn



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Board of Officers Meeting Agenda

Westminster Elementary School (Auditorium)

1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd, Venice, 90291

Tuesday, September 20, 2011 at 7:00 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 Venice, CA 90291), Abbots Habit (1401 Abbot Kinney Blvd. Venice, CA 90291), the Venice Library (501 South Venice Boulevard, Venice, CA 90291), Oakwood Recreation Center (767 California St. Venice, CA 90291), 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.

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.

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 (7:00PM – 5 minutes)**

2. **Approval of the Agenda (7:05PM– 5 minutes)**

3. **Approval of Outstanding Board Minutes (7:10PM– 5 minutes)**

July 28, 2011 (<http://venicenc.org/files/110728SpecialBoardMeetingMinutes.pdf>)

August 16, 2011 (<http://venicenc.org/files/110816VNCBoardMeetingMinutes.pdf>)

Announcements & Public Comment on items not on the Agenda (7:15PM– 5 minutes)

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

4. **Public Safety- LAPD LAPD Report (7:20PM – 5 minutes):** Senior Lead Officers Peggy

Thusing/Theresa Skinner/Gregg Jacobus, (310-622-3968; 25120@lapd.lacity.org, 35162@lapd.lacity.org, 31142@lapd.lacity.org)

5. **Scheduled Announcements (7:30PM – 15 minutes)**

A Update from PATH regarding Councilman Rosendahl's Roadmap to Homes Program, Joel Roberts (Joel.Roberts@epath.org), Executive Director, PATH (10 minutes)

B Update on 38 Palm Trees on Venice Blvd/Abbott Kinney Scheduled to Be Removed: Jim Murez (murez@venice.net) (1 minute)

C Big Belly Solar trash compactors on Venice Beach Update & Art Project; Barbara Lonsdale (barblonsdale@yahoo.com) (1 minute)

D Google Introduction; Thomas Williams, Director of Venice Operations (10 minutes)

E Reminder of Congress of Neighborhood Councils on September 24; Ivan Spiegel, (parliamentarian@venicenc.org) (3 minutes)



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6. Governmental Reports (7:45PM - 10 minutes)

- **U.S. Congressional Representative Office** (TBD)
- **State Senator Ted Lieu**, Representative, Jennifer Zivkovic (jennifer.zivkovic.senate@gmail.com) 310-615-3516
- **State Assemblyperson Betsy Butler**, Representative, Stephanie Molen (Stephanie.Molen@asm.ca.gov) 310-615-3515
- **Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa**; Joseph Hari, West Area Representative (310-479-3823) (Joseph.Hari@lacity.org)
- **City Councilperson Bill Rosendahl**: Cecilia Castillo, Field Deputy (310-568-8772); (Cecilia.castillo@lacity.org); Arturo Pina, District Director (Arturo.Pina@lacity.org)

7. Appointment to fill two Board Seat Vacancies (7:55PM - 20 minutes)

[EXHIBIT A]

The two candidates selected by the Board are immediately seated.

Candidates:

- Grant Burton
- Hershel Gerson
- Matthew Kline
- Barbara Lonsdale
- Colleen Saro
- **ADCOM ACTION TAKEN** Placed on board agenda.

8. Consent Calendar (8:15PM – 5 minutes)

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

- A** **Community Impact Statement - Citywide Sign Ordinance**; Dennis Hathaway on behalf of the Coalition to Ban Billboard Blight (dennis@banbillboardblight.org)

[EXHIBIT B]

MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council opposes adoption of the revised citywide sign ordinance now pending before the City Council Planning and Land Use Management committee because it would allow a proliferation of commercial advertising on both private and public property without a significant reduction in existing billboard and signage blight, and would allow new electronic signage without addressing energy use, light pollution, traffic safety, and other issues that could negatively effect Venice and other communities throughout the city. Council File #08-2020

- B** **Community Impact Statement-No Alcohol Ads on Public Property**; Dennis Hathaway on behalf of the Coalition to Ban Billboard Blight (dennis@banbillboardblight.org)

[EXHIBIT C]

MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council supports the motion directing the City Attorney to prepare an ordinance prohibiting alcohol advertising on city-owned and controlled property. Exposure to alcohol advertising has been shown to be a factor in drinking and alcohol abuse, especially among youth and the underaged. In Venice, incidents of violence on the heavily-visited Ocean Front Walk are common, and often fueled by alcohol. Venice also has one of the largest homeless populations in the city, and alcohol addiction and abuse has been shown to be a significant contributing factor in homelessness. Council File #11-1429



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C Motion to Approve Letter to Assembly member Ted Lieu Laura Silagi on behalf of the SM Airport Committee (lrsilagi@gmail.com) **[EXHIBIT D]**

Support letter for Ted Lieu to the State's Environmental Protection Agency requesting a study of toxic impacts stemming from SMO operations.

ADCOM ACTION TAKEN Above three motions placed in consent section of board agenda.

9. Old Business (8:20PM – 15 minutes)

[Discussion and possible action regarding the following matters]

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)

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.

ADCOM ACTION TAKEN Placed on board agenda.

B 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) **[EXHIBIT E]**

MOTION: To renew Santa Monica Airport Ad Hoc Committee with a sunset clause of January, 2015 to coincide with the expiration of the agreement with Santa Monica and the FAA.

ADCOM ACTION TAKEN Placed on board agenda.

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

10. New Business (8:35PM – 75 minutes)

[Discussion and possible action]

A Beer and Wine for Benny's Taco at 427 Lincoln Blvd (20 minutes) Jake Kaufman on behalf of LUPC (jake.kaufman@venicenc.org)

MOTION: We move to approve the CUB application, noting:

1. Hours 9am -11pm, 7-days per week,
2. Beer and wine only, on-site sales only, only with food purchase,
3. Gross sales of alcohol will not exceed the gross sales of food on a quarterly basis,
4. No beer or alcohol signage visible from outside the business,
5. Parking lot stays lite until 3am, but shielded from residential uses,
6. 49 seats total inside and out with 17 parking spaces; no relief granted from parking,
7. Noting business provided bicycle racks,
8. No walkup service of alcohol, only by server to seated patrons,
9. No music heard past the properly line past 9p on Sunday through Thursday, and 11p on Friday and Saturday,
10. Plan Approval required one year from date that alcohol first allowed.
11. Noting that the applicant is asking to hold the case open until September 23, 2011 to allow for official VNC vote/position.

MOTION MADE BY JAY GOLDBERG, SECONDED BY JOHN REED
MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUS (7-0)

ADCOM ACTION TAKEN Placed on board agenda.



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- B** Vardo Café; 235 S Main St 90291 (20 minutes) Jake Kaufman on behalf of LUPC (jake.kaufman@venicenc.org)

MOTION: ENV-2011-750-CE and ZA-2011-749-CUB CONDITIONAL USE TO ALLOW THE DISPENSING OF BEER AND WINE ON-SITE:

We move to approve the project as presented noting:

1. New Type 41 (on-site beer and wine only for Bona Fide Public Eating Place)
2. Hours of operations, 10am-12 Midnight.
3. Gross sales of alcohol will not exceed the gross sales of food on a quarterly basis,
4. No beer or alcohol signage visible from outside the business,
5. No relief granted from parking requirements; applicant to show that the overall use of the mixed use project meets the original project requirements,
6. Abiding by current Venice BMP and CUB requirements,
7. Up to 2 musicians, non amplified music.

MOTION MADE BY ROBERT ARONSON, SECONDED BY JORY TREMBLAY
MOTION PASSED (6-1)

ADCOM ACTION TAKEN Placed on board agenda.

- C** Presentation and Motion of Support for Main Street Diet Plan (15 Minutes) Kristopher Valentine on behalf of the Environmental Committee (Kristopher.valentine@gmail.com)

Presentation by Paul Backstrom, Legislative Deputy for Councilman Rosendahl , Los Angeles Department of Transportation Representative (LADOT):

MOTION: Whereas Main Street from Windward 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-stripped median area that would effectively serve as left-turn pocket for motorists traveling from Main Street to adjacent side streets, hereby 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

Approved Unanimously by the Environmental Committee
Rejected 1-6-0 Neighborhood Committee

ADCOM ACTION TAKEN Placed on board agenda.



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- D** **Motion to approve or deny AT&T Cell Tower at 737 Washington (20 minutes)** Jake Kaufman on behalf of LUPC (jake.kaufman@venicenc.org)

(Placeholder of for motion)

ADCOM ACTION TAKEN Placed on board agenda.

- D2** **Motion to Approve Cell Tower Policy** Jake Kaufman on behalf of LUPC (jake.kaufman@venicenc.org)

[EXHIBIT F]

MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council requests that:

All cell towers in Venice be placed on public land, not private land;

Fit within the architectural and artistic character and scale of our visitor serving community;

And, all new towers approved by the Venice Neighborhood Council before approved by Los Angeles City Planning.

ADCOM ACTION TAKEN Postponed to October 10, 2011 Administrative Committee Meeting

- E.** **Proposal for Board Consideration of Negative Dynamic;** Joe Murphy (joedmurphy@ca.rr.com)

MOTION: I believe an experienced and competent mediator would see this (see supporting documents) as an opportunity and would suggest the following procedure:

Step 1 Make the unhealthy pattern transparent enough so that it is difficult for those involved to deny it exists. I believe the attached supporting documents achieve this by detailing one familiar example of the unhealthy pattern with which 'key affected parties' are aware. I believe mediators would recognize this as an intervention which attempts to create "cognitive dissonance" and lead to a desire to make a significant change.

Step 2 The VNC Board acknowledges the existence of this unhealthy dynamic and decides to do something about it. This brings the spectrum of interested parties to the negotiating table thru the elected representatives of the Venice Community.

Step 3 The VNC Board: (i) generates a list of problems needing to be addressed by openly discussing what got us stuck and therefore locks us in that mode; and (ii) brainstorms/explores ideas (all ideas welcome) on how to address it. This part requires time to dialogue in a relaxed way – time to ask and answer probing questions in order to understand/appreciate a board member's position and the underlying interests upon which his/her position is based.

Step 4 Experiment with some of these ideas by implementing those that seem most likely to improve things.

Step 5 Consider it a 'pilot experiment' subject to periodic evaluation and modification. This institutionalizes 'learning from experience' as an ongoing element of the process.

MOTION: The VNC shall adopt the following procedures as an attempt to avoid a negative dynamic:

ADCOM ACTION TAKEN Withdrawn by maker



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- F. **Motion to Support An Ordinance Re: Dogs on OFW** (5 Minutes) Daffodil Tyminski, on behalf of the Public Safety Committee (melya@earthlink.net)

MOTION: Whereas, the City of Los Angeles currently bans dogs on Ocean Front Walk from 11 am to 8 pm on summer weekends and holidays;
Whereas, the summer-only ban has created confusion as to when the ban is in effect, thereby making the ban difficult for LAPD to enforce;
Whereas, Ocean Front Walk has become an increasingly busy, year-around tourist attraction;
Whereas, the presence of dogs on Ocean Front in crowded conditions poses a safety hazards for people and dogs alike, year-around;
Whereas, people on Ocean Front Walk, including LAPD officers, have been bitten by dogs on Ocean Front Walk;
The VNC moves to support an ordinance extending the ban of dogs on Ocean Front Walk so that dogs will be banned every weekend and holiday throughout the year from 11 am to 6 pm in the wintertime and 11 to 8 pm in the summertime.

Voted Unanimous by Committee

ADCOM ACTION TAKEN HH/JM Motion to remove from the board agenda approved 5-0-2

- G. **Naming the VNC Community Improvement Projects named after Tisha Bedrosian**; Carolyn Rios on behalf of the Neighborhood Committee: submitted by Robert Aronson (R_Aronson@UReach.com)

The annual funding program by the Venice Neighborhood Council shall forever be named "Venice Neighborhood Council's Annual Tisha Bedrosian Grass Roots Funding Awards," or a similar name that incorporates the name "Tisha Bedrosian" and the words "Grass Roots."
Rejected 0-7-0 - Neighborhood Committee

ADCOM ACTION TAKEN Removed from the board agenda and referred to REC for AdCom removal policy

- H. **Beach Bus Express**; Eli Lipmen (secretary@palmsla.org)

MOTION: The VNC supports the leveraging of the existing Venice Blvd. Rapid Bus Line to mirror the service frequencies of the Metro Exposition Light Rail Line, with rebranding and promotion to connect Expo Line riders with the community and its recreational and business opportunities, while simultaneously promoting use of the Exposition Light Rail Line to Westside residents.

ADCOM ACTION TAKEN Referred to Neighborhood Committee



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11. VNC Announcements (9:45PM - 20 Minutes)

- **President:** Linda Lucks (president@venicenc.org) [EXHIBIT H]
 - Appoint two VNC Members as 2011-12 Budget Advocates
 - Appoint Task Force on City Clerk Elections- Ivan Spiegel, Chair
 - VNC Attendance Report published next month
- **Vice President:** Carolyn Rios (VP@venicenc.org)
- **Special Joint Board Meeting With other Westside Regional Alliance of Councils Councils On September 27th (5 Minutes)** Mike Newhouse on behalf of WRAC (mnewhouse@newhouseseroussi.com) [EXHIBIT G]
- **Presentation by the LUPC Chair (10 Minutes)** Jake Kaufman on behalf of LUPC (jake.kaufman@venicenc.org)
 - 1- the status of projects presented before the VNC Board and LUPC in the past 12 months
 - 2- a committee update
 - 3- LUPC goals for the next year
- **LA Alliance of NC's Representative:** Ivan Spiegel, (parliamentarian@venicenc.org)
- **Plancheck NC:** VNC Rep Challis Macpherson (Challis.Macpherson@Verizon.net)
- **LA Dept of Water & Power/Memoranda of Understanding:** VNC Rep DeDe Audet (daudet@ca.rr.com)
- **LAPD Community Police Advisory Board:** Daffodil Tyminski, Nicolas Hippisley-Coxe, (hippisley@earthlink.net)

12. Treasurers Report (10:15PM - 10 minutes); Hugh Harrison [EXHIBIT I] *[Discussion and possible action to approve financial statements and expenditures]*

MOTION: The VNC approves the submitted financial statements for the period July 21 through August 22, 2011.

ADCOM ACTION TAKEN Placed on board agenda as amended.

MOTION: The VNC approves the CIP application for \$2000 for a Toy Drive to be held at Oakwood Recreation Center & Park. Submitted by Mariana Aguilar, VNC Toy Drive Chair

ADCOM ACTION TAKEN Placed on board agenda.

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. 10:00PM)

List of Venice Neighborhood Council Committees & Chairs – Volunteers Welcome

Administrative	Linda Lucks	Santa Monica Airport	Laura Silagi & Amanda Seward
Neighborhood	Carolyn Rios	Visitor Impact	Amanda Seward
Outreach	Marc Saltzberg	Ocean Front Walk	Ivonne Guzman
Budget	Hugh Harrison	Public Safety	Nicolas Hippisley-Coxe Daffodil Tyminski
Land Use and Planning	Jake Kaufman	Education	
Rules & Elections	Ira Koslow	Environment	Barbara Lonsdale, Kristopher Valentine
Arts	Clark McCutchen, Cynthia Rogers		

It's YOUR Venice - get involved!