



# Venice Neighborhood Council

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



## **Board of Officers Meeting Minutes - DRAFT**

Westminster Elementary School (Auditorium)  
1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd, Venice, 90291  
Tuesday, September 20, 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, President; Jake Kaufman; Hugh Harrison; Cynthia Rogers; Amanda Seward; Carolyn Rios; Joe Murphy; Cindy Chambers; Ira Koslow; Marc Saltzberg; Brennan Lindner; Clark McCutchen; Jed Pauker; Mariana Aguilar; Scott Kramarich; Ivonne Guzman.

**Absent:** Kristopher Valentine; Daffodil Tyminski; Kelley S. Willis.

**Parliamentarian:** Ivan Spiegel.

### 2. **Approval of the Agenda**

**ACTION TAKEN Approved as amended**

### 3. **Approval of Outstanding Board Minutes**

<http://venicenc.org/files/110728SpecialBoardMeetingMinutes.pdf>

<http://venicenc.org/files/110816VNCBoardMeetingMinutes.pdf>

**ACTION TAKEN Approved**

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

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

### 4. **LAPD Report:** 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**

**A** **PATH** (People Assisting the Homeless) Update on Councilman Rosendahl's Roadmap to Homes Program, Joel Roberts ([Joel.Roberts@epath.org](mailto:Joel.Roberts@epath.org)), Executive Director, PATH

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

**C** Big Belly Solar trash compactors on Venice Beach Update & Art Project; Barbara Lonsdale ([barblonsdale@yahoo.com](mailto:barblonsdale@yahoo.com))

**D** Welcome and Introduction by Google's Venice Campus Director, Thomas Williams ([Kng@google.com](mailto:Kng@google.com))

**E** Reminder of **Congress of Neighborhood Councils** on September 24; Ivan Spiegel, ([parliamentarian@venicenc.org](mailto:parliamentarian@venicenc.org))



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## 6. Governmental Reports

- **U.S. Congressional Representative Office** (TBD)
- **State Senator Ted Lieu**, Representative, Veronica  
( ) 310-615-3516
- **State Assemblyperson Betsy Butler**, Representative, Romero  
( ) 310-615-3515
- **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))

## 7. Appointment to fill two Board Seat Vacancies

[EXHIBIT A]

The two candidates selected by the Board are immediately seated.

### Candidates:

- Hershel Gerson
- Matthew Kline
- Barbara Lonsdale
- Colleen Saro

**ACTION TAKEN** Matthew Kline & Barbara Lonsdale were selected and seated by the Board

## 8. Consent Calendar

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

- B** **Motion to Approve Letter to Assembly member Ted Lieu** Laura Silagi on behalf of the SM Airport Committee ([lrsilagi@gmail.com](mailto: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.

**ACTION TAKEN** Approved by Consent



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## 9. Old Business

- 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: 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.

**ACTION TAKEN** Approved

- B **Renewal of Santa Monica Airport Ad Hoc Committee:** Amanda Seward on behalf of the Santa Monica Airport Ad Hoc Committee ([amandaseward@artvista.net](mailto: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.

**ACTION TAKEN** Approved

- C **Presentation and Motion of Support for “Main Street Diet Plan”:** Kristopher Valentine on behalf of the Environmental Committee ([Kristopher.valentine@gmail.com](mailto: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 leftturn 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, and there would be no loss or change to the existing automobile parking.

Therefore the Venice Neighborhood Council supports the LADOT proposal in concept 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

**ACTION TAKEN** **JP/?? motion to add in concept passes by voice vote**  
**MS/CR motion to approve as amended passes by unanimous vote**



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## 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

- A **Beer and Wine for Benny's Taco at 427 Lincoln Blvd:** Jake Kaufman on behalf of LUPC ([jake.kaufman@venicenc.org](mailto: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)

**ACTION TAKEN** JK/MA motion to amend item 10 to five years fails 2-10-5  
JK/HH motion to approve passes 12-2-3

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

**ACTION TAKEN** JK/JM motion to Approve passes 13-1-2



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## 11. VNC Announcements

- **President:** Linda Lucks ([president@venicenc.org](mailto:president@venicenc.org)) [EXHIBIT F]
  - Appoint two VNC Members as 2011-12 Budget Advocates -Hugh Harrison
  - Appoint Task Force on **Krekorian** motions - Ivan Spiegel, Chair
  - VNC Attendance Report published next month
- **Vice President:** Carolyn Rios ([VP@venicenc.org](mailto:VP@venicenc.org))
- **Special Joint Board Meeting With other Westside Regional Alliance of Councils On September 27<sup>th</sup>**  
Mike Newhouse on behalf of WRAC ([mnewhouse@newhouseseroussi.com](mailto:mnewhouse@newhouseseroussi.com)) [EXHIBIT G]
- **Presentation by the LUPC Chair,** Jake Kaufman on behalf of LUPC [jake.kaufman@venicenc.org](mailto: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

**ACTION TAKEN** Postponed to October 10, 2011 Administrative Committee meeting
- **LA Alliance of NC's Representative:** Ivan Spiegel, ([parliamentarian@venicenc.org](mailto:parliamentarian@venicenc.org))
- **Plancheck NC:** 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:** Daffodil Tyminski, Nicolas Hippisley-Coxe, ([hippisley@earthlink.net](mailto:hippisley@earthlink.net))

## 12. Treasurers Report; Hugh Harrison

[EXHIBIT H]

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

**ACTION TAKEN** Approved

**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)

**ACTION TAKEN** MA/AS motion to approve passes 13-2-1

- B. **Community Impact Statement - Citywide Sign Ordinance;** Dennis Hathaway on behalf of the Coalition to Ban Billboard Blight ([dennis@banbillboardblight.org](mailto: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

**ACTION TAKEN** HH/CC motion to approve passed 15-0-1

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

## 13. Board Member Comments on subject matters within the VNC jurisdiction.

## 14. Adjourn



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

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