



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / www.VeniceNC.org
Email: info@VeniceNC.org Phone: 310-421-8627



Board of Officer Meeting Agenda Westminster Elementary School (Auditorium) 1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd, Venice, 90291 **Tuesday, September 18, 2012 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.), 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.

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.

****ALL ITEMS ON THE AGENDA VOTED UNANIMOUSLY UNLESS NOTED****

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call (7:00PM – 5 minutes)**
Due to Presidential Town Hall, Oct. VNC meetings moved to:
Administrative Committee: Oct 15th; Board Oct 23rd
PRESENT: LL, MS, JP, BL, SK, HH, JM, KV, JK, B Lond., CC, KW
ABSENT:
2. **Approval of the Agenda (7:05PM – 5 minutes)**
ACTION: MS/HH make motion to amend agenda. 8G referred to the Environmental Committee. Move 8F in front of 7A
Agenda Approved as Amended MS/CC
3. **Approval of Outstanding Board Minutes (7:10PM – 5 minutes)**
<http://venicenc.org/files/120821DraftBoardMinutes.pdf>
ACTION: Minutes approved as written 8-0-2 (JP/HH)
4. **Introduction of interim Venice Librarian Rachel Bindman, PhD, MLS (7:15PM -- 5 minutes)**

Announcements & Public Comment on items not on the Agenda (7:20 -- 10 minutes)

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

Public Comment: Donna Tripp, Bud Jacobs, Sylvia Aroth, Yolanda Gonzalez, Dr. Farough Dovlatshahi, Marcia Hanscom, Ingrid Mueller, Melissa Diner



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5. Consent Calendar (7:30PM – 5 minutes)

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

A **Sponsorship of the 2nd Annual Venice Area Middle Schools Forum** Julia Morgan on behalf of the VNC Education Committee

MOTION : The VNC agrees to co-sponsor a Venice Area Middle Schools Forum to be held on October 18, 2012 at Coeur D'Alene Elementary School. The forum provides an opportunity for local schools to showcase their unique programs and strengths, and allows parents to meet school leaders before making a middle school placement decision for their child. Passed 5-0-0

ACTION: Approved unanimously CC/HH

6. Scheduled Announcements (7:35PM – 35 minutes)

[No discussion or Public Comment]

A **VNC Elections Update/upcoming events (3 minutes)** VNC Elections Co-chair Ivan Spiegel Candidate Filing Deadline September 28th Election is Sunday, October 28th [Election Information](#)

B **Neighborhood Council Congress -- Sept. 22 from 7:45am to 4:00pm including a mayoral candidate debate (2 minutes)**Ivan Spiegel, Marlene Savage-Congress Planning Committee. <http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?oeidk=a07e65gmo9va6176135&llr=v6sxvscab>

C **PATH (People Assisting the Homeless) (5 minutes)** Update on Councilman Rosendahl's Roadmap to Homes Program, Joel Roberts, Joel.Roberts@epath.org), Tomasz Babiszewicz (tomaszb@epath.org); *This report includes statistics on the number of people placed in permanent and temporary housing as well as the numbers of people in process.*

D **Public Safety - LAPD Report (10 minutes)**: Senior Lead Officers Peggy Thusing 310-622-3968 (25120@lapd.lacity.org), Kristan Delatore 310-622.3970 32914@lapd.lacity.org ,Gregg Jacobus, 35162@lapd.lacity.org, . *This report includes a monthly Venice crime report and updates on law enforcement issues in Venice.*

E **Governmental Reports (10 Minutes)**

- **U.S. Congress Representative Janice Hahn**, Deputy Natalie Rodgers, (Natalie.Rodgers@mail.house.gov) 310-831-1799
- **State Senator Ted Lieu**, Representative, Veronica Zendejas (Veronica.Zendejas@sen.ca.gov) 310-318-6994
- **State Assemblyperson Betsy Butler**, Representative, Stephanie Romero, Stephanie.Romero@asm.gov 310-615-3515
- **LA County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky**, 213-974-3333
- **Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa**; Joseph Hari, West Area Representative (Joseph.Hari@lacity.org) 310-479-3823



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- Los Angeles County Beaches and Harbors Department, Ken Foreman, Facilities and Property Maintenance Division Chief, KForeman@bh.lacounty.gov, 310.305.9559
- City Councilmember Bill Rosendahl: Cecilia Castillo, Field Deputy (310-568-8772); (Cecilia.castillo@lacity.org); Arturo Pina, District Director (Arturo.Pina@lacity.org)

F **Update on overall study for Westside Mobility Plan (5 minutes)** Fehr & Peers on behalf of Arellano Associates ECruz@arellanoassociates.com

Announcements & Public Comment on items not on the Agenda (8:10 - 5 minutes)
[5 speakers, no more than 1 minute per person – no Board member announcements permitted]
Jim Murez, Deborah Lashever

7. **Old Business (8:15 15 minutes)**
[Discussion and possible action.]

A **Mass, Scale, and Character Considerations** Sue Kaplan sakaplan@ca.rr.com

MOTION : The VNC Board instructs that the Land Use And Planning Committee shall consider mass, scale, and character for an applicant's proposed project, even when the proposed project is otherwise in compliance with the height, setback, and other requirements of the Venice Coastal Zone Specific Plan and the Los Angeles Municipal Codes.

Public Comment:

In Favor: Sue Kaplan, Alan Seltzer, Joseph Shields, David Ewing, GiGi Gaston, Curtis Hoekzema, Patrick Frank, Carolyn Rios, Karen Wolfe

Against:

General: Mark Ryavec, Jim Murez, Marisa Solomon

ACTION: Motion on the consideration of mass, scale and character. [Chambers/Lonsdale]. A point of order was raised by Marc Saltzberg as to whether the Board had jurisdiction of the matter in light of the creation of the adhoc committee on mass, scale and character. The Chair ruled the point out of order. A motion was made to refer the matter to the Adhoc committee [Murphy, Kramarich]. The motion for referral was defeated 1-9-1. The motion in chief then passed 10-1-0.



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8. New Business (8:30 130 minutes)
[Discussion and possible action.]

A 1627 S CRESCENT PLACE; New Single Family Dwelling Jake Kaufman on behalf of LUPC
chair-lupc@venicenc.org

MOTION: to support the project as presented (drawing dated 8-13-2012) noting:

1. The applicant reached out to community and made changes to suit many of the requests, included a more open and transparent design,
2. A 3 story SFD with attached garage with, no variance or exception to VCZSP (height, setback),
3. Fence and hedges to be per the LAMC (42"),
4. No rooftop structure or deck.

MOTION BY JAKE KAUFMAN, SECOND JAY GOLDBERG, Passed 7-1-0

Public Comment:

In Favor: Fred Gaines, Kenneth Lee, Inge Mueller

Against: Sue Kaplan, Eileen Erickson, Gigi Gaston, Karen Wolfe

General: Jim Murez, John Reed

**ACTION: Motion to approve project at 1627 S. Crescent Place [Kaufman/Murphy].
Approved 6-4-1.**

B 3009 S SANBORN AVE; new SFD requesting variances; ENV-2012-1080-CE & ZA-2012-1079-ZAA; DEMOLITION OF EXISTING SFD AND CONSTRUCTION OF NEW 2;697 SQ FT SFD WITH 342 SQ FT GARAGE. Jake Kaufman on behalf of LUPC
chair-lupc@venicenc.org

MOTION: The VNC RECOMMENDS APPROVAL OF THE PROJECT AS PRESENTED. GIVEN THE HARDSHIP OF THE CHALLENGING SIZE AND SHAPE OF LOT, THAT IT IS ON END OF RESIDENTIAL STREET FACING MOSTLY COMMERCIAL, HAS THE ACCEPTANCE BY ONLY ADJACENT NEIGHBOR (TO THE NORTH), THE LOTS TO WEST AND EAST ARE PARKING LOTS AND TO THE SOUTH IS A COMMERCIAL BUILDING. THE VNC FEELS THE REQUESTED VARIANCES OF 10'6" SETBACK ON THE FRONT AND 6'0" ON THE REAR ARE ACCEPTABLE. NOTE THAT THE PROJECT IS REQUESTING NO OTHER VARIANCES OR EXCEPTIONS, HAS 2+ ON-SITE PARKING SPACES AND WILL HAVE AN IN-CODE 42" OR LESS FENCE.

MOTION MADE BY JAKE KAUFMAN, SECONDED BY MIA HERRON.
APPROVED 8-0



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General Comment: Jim Murez

ACTION: Motion to approve project at 3009 S. Sanborn [Kaufman/Harrison]. Approved 10-0-1.

- C** 739 California Ave; Small Lot Subdivision, 2 homes Re-present with Significant Changes to AA-2011-3026-PMLA-SL-SPP-CDP-MEL and ENV-2011-3027-MND Jake Kaufman on behalf of LUPC chair-lupc@venicenc.org

MOTION: The VNC Board approves the project based on the original project presented as a 4-unit small-lot subdivision and subsequently changed in response to community feedback. It is now presented as a small lot subdivision for 2 lots with 1 single family unit on each parcel, both of which are in full compliance with the Venice Coastal Zone Specific Plan. LUPC Motion Made by Sarah Dennison, Seconded by Jay Goldberg. LUPC Passed Motion 7-0\

General Comment: Jim Murez

ACTION: Motion to approve project at 739 California Avenue [Kaufman/Saltzberg] . Passed 11-0-0.

- D** Support for DONE Acting General Manager Grayce Liu to be appointed as permanent General Manager of DONE Ivan Spiegel on behalf of LAANCC

MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council shall send a letter to Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and Deputy Mayor Torie Osborn recommending that they appoint Grayce Liu, currently an interim General Manager, as the new permanent General Manager of the Department Of Neighborhood Empowerment.

ACTION: Motion to support appointment of Gracye Liu as permanent head of DONE. Due to a lack of quorum, this matter was not addressed and will become old business for the Board at its October meeting. Ivan Spiegel, Jay Handel and Linda Lucks spoke in favor of the motion.

- E** Label Genetically Engineered Food Ken Eliezer on behalf of Label GMO ke0@yahoo.com

MOTION : The Venice Neighborhood Council, believing that consumers have a right to know what is in their food, shall send a letter to the LA City Council in support of its decision to



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establish mandatory food labeling requirements for certain genetically engineered foods. This is now Proposition 37, a California ballot initiative

NOTE: Since this is a Ballot measure, the City Attorney has specific procedures on how Neighborhood Councils may take a position on it. The VNC is required to present both supporting and opposing views of an issue at a public meeting before they make a decision. Please see http://www.noprop37.com/files/No37_Fact_v11.pdf for a different view on this initiative.

Public Comment:

In Favor: Susan Wheeler, Rick Cavener, Lori Pennington, Holly Stafford, Craig Aldana, Lisa Green

ACTION: Motion to establish mandatory food labeling for genetically engineered foods [Lonsdale/Murphy]. Passed 11-0-0.

F Creation of Mass, Scale, And Character Adhoc Committee Linda Lucks, President

MOTION: The VNC Board shall create the Mass, Scale, and Character Ad hoc Committee with the following Mission Statement approved by the Administrative Committee:

MISSION STATEMENT: The Mass, Scale, and Character Adhoc Committee will study the application of requirements for new development in the Coastal Zone to be compatible with existing neighborhoods in mass, scale, and character as mandated by the VCZSP and related planning documents. It will meet with, and solicit input from residents of the Venice Coastal Zone, city officials, and other interested and relevant people in order to research standards and protocols by which these issues may be evaluated in new Coastal Development Projects in order to implement the intent and letter of the governing planning documents in the most fair and practical manner. The conclusions of this Committee will be reported directly to the Venice Neighborhood Council Board. The Committee shall automatically terminate after one year or the seating of a new VNC Board, whichever occurs first.

ACTION: Moved in front of item 7A.

SK/JM Motion to postpone item to next month 2-8-1

Motion approved -4-2

Public Comment:

In Favor: David Ewing, Karen Wolfe, Sue Kaplan,

General: Jim Murez, Mark Ryavec,



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- G** **Ballona Wetlands Wildlife Friendly Restoration Alternative** Marcia Hanscom on behalf of Environment Committee wetlandact@earthlink.net

MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council Board is opposed to the Army Corps of Engineers' announced plan for the Ballona Wetlands that is highly invasive and will bring a massive construction site, including significant traffic impacts, to the Westside community for years; a mechanized, bulldozer-driven landscape alteration that would disrupt the ecosystem and harm habitat for rare and endangered species; and disruption of the ecosystem and the recreation area (bicycle/walking path and rowing area) of the Ballona Creek channel by removal of the earthen levees. The VNC Board also objects to public access being severely limited for the past 9 years and essentially being held hostage for this plan to be completed. Instead, the VNC Board supports the "Wildlife Friendly Restoration Alternative" (attached) community-engaged restoration, based on the "Seven Guiding Principles for Rejuvenation of the Ballona Ecosystem." (attached)

ACTION: Removed from agenda and referred to the Environmental Committee

- 9.** **Treasurers Report (10:40 -- 15 minutes);** Hugh Harrison (Treasurer@Venicenc.org)
[Discussion and possible action]

- A** **MOTION:** The VNC Board approves the attached report on expenditures for the period July 22, 2012 through August 21, 2012, and the itemized purchase card invoice.

ACTION: Motion to approve expenditure report [Harrison/Willis]. Approved 10-0-1

- B** **MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council shall request that Councilman Rosendahl submit a Council motion to instruct EmpowerLA to have expenses for the use of Westminster Elementary School during the 2011-2012 fiscal year that were not paid due to improper billing by LAUSD be paid from funds allocated for 2011-2012.

ACTION: Motion to request Council motion on LAUSD expenses [Harrison/Willis]. Approved 11-0-0.

- C** **MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council shall reallocate \$1,358.52 from Board Community Improvement Projects to cover the balance of the community improvement funds awarded for Beethoven Elementary School in the 2011-2012 fiscal year.

ACTION: Motion to allocate funds from Board community projects for funding Beethoven Elementary project from 2011-2012 fiscal year [Harrison/Paulker]. Approved 11-0-0.



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10. VNC Announcements (10:55 -- 10 Minutes)

- **President:** Linda Lucks (president@venicenc.org)
October meetings moved to: Ad Com Oct 15th, Board Oct 23rd
Call for Candidates until 9.28; Candidate Orientation: Oct. 9; Candidate forum Oct 25th
VNC Board elections - Sunday, Oct. 28, Westminster School 10-5.
- **Vice President** Marc Saltzberg (Vicepresident@Venicenc.org)
- **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 (Daffodil.Tyminski@Venicenc.org) , Nicolas Hippisley-Coxe, (hippisley@earthlink.net)
- **Westside Alliance of Neighborhood Councils-** Mike Newhouse, President, Marc Saltzberg , VNC Representatives. Chair@westsidecouncils.org, VicePresident@Venicenc.org,

Announcements & Public Comment on items not on the Agenda

[20 minutes, no more than 1 minute per person – no Board member announcements permitted]

11. Board Member Comments on subject matters within the VNC jurisdiction [11:05 -- 5 minutes, no more than 1 minute per person]

12. Adjourn

ACTION: Meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m.