



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294

www.VeniceNC.org



Board of Officers
6:30-9:30 PM Tuesday
June 18, 2024
Westminster Elementary School
1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd Venice, CA 90291
(enter from parking lot on Westminster Ave)

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. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Board's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is limited to 30 seconds per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND BOARD ROLL CALL

Brian Averill	Erica Moore	Yolanda Gonzalez	Bruno Hernandez
Jim Robb	Lisa Redmond	Deborah Keaton	Christopher Lee
Helen Fallon	Robert Thibodeau	Eric Donaldson	
Tima Bell	Alley Bean	Jason Sugars	
Michael Jensen	Clark Brown	CJ Cole	
Nico Ruderman	Steve Bradbury	Soledad Ursua	

2. JUNETEENTH RECOGNITION WITH DR NAOMI NIGHTINGALE

3. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES

APRIL <https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting662ee704de4c9.pdf>

MAY <https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting6665fa40c03be.pdf>

4. DECLARATION OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS, CONFLICTS OF INTEREST OR RECUSALS

5. PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

6. GOVERNMENT REPORTS

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

8. PRESIDENT'S REPORT



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9. ELECTION OF NEW COMMUNITY OFFICER

Candidates will have 2min to speak. (11 Votes Required)

Austin Brown
Mary Klein
Mehrnoosh Mojallali
Gary Pearl
Fran Solomon

10. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT – LIMIT TO 20MIN/1MIN PER SPEAKER

Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction. Each speaker will be allowed one (1) minute unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the meeting.

11. GENERAL CONSENT CALENDAR

GENERAL CONSENT CALENDAR Items deemed to be routine, non controversial. Any Board member or stakeholder can ask a clarifying question instead of, or before, moving items to the end of the general agenda.

12. OLD BUSINESS

PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

A. Connectivity of Abbot Kinney Blvd to Centennial Park (4-0-0)

MOTION: The Board of Officers of the Venice Neighborhood Council requests that the west crosswalk of Venice Boulevard at Abbot Kinney Blvd be connected to the island, and a access point be created in the fencing, such that pedestrians may access Centennial Park from Abbot Kinney Boulevard, as per DOT's “pedestrian island” recommendation, with letters sent to RAP, CD11, and LADOT.

RULES AND SELECTIONS COMMITTEE

B. Opposition to CF 15-0389-S2 (2-0-0)

MOTION: for CIS and letter stating opposition to CF 15-0389-S2 allowing neighborhood associations and community councils the same privileges as Los Angeles City certified Neighborhood Councils.



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DESCRIPTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council opposes CF 15-0389-S2 granting neighborhood associations the same privileges afforded by certified Los Angeles City Neighborhood Councils (NCs) pursuant to Los Angeles Administrative Code Section 22.819. All certified NCs are required to comply with the Brown Act, the Public Records Act, and the policies and rules of the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment and the City Clerk's NC Funding Program and NC Election Divisions. NC Board members must take several trainings including Ethics, Anti Bias, and Community Gender Bias, as well as comply with a Code of Conduct. Neighborhood association members do not have to comply with any of the above. Further, NC meetings must comply with the Brown Act by giving notice of meeting times and locations, the timely filing of agendas and being open to the public. NCs are prohibited from activities such as raising outside funding, supporting or opposing candidates and ballot measures, and suing The City. Neighborhood association members are not required to take any type of training, they can restrict board membership in any way they choose, they do not need to give notice of meeting times and locations, allow the public to attend and address them, or let the public know what they are discussing and deciding. Where NCs are supposed to be open and not discuss or decide issues before them in any manner other than at a public meeting, neighborhood associations can meet and decide issues in ways that are opaque and secretive. Finally, many neighborhood associations are dues paying organizations and conduct private elections not open to the public. Therefore, the VNC opposes CF 15-0389-S2. Additionally, a letter will be sent to Council Member Traci Park, City Council President Paul Krekorian, Interim DONE General Manager Vanessa Serrano and City Attorney Hydee Feldstien Soto.

C. LUPC REVIEW PROCESS STANDING RULE (2-0-0)

Changes to Standing Rules re. LUPC

The purpose of the proposed changes are: 1) to clarify the standard of review for proposed developments within Venice, 2) to clarify steps LUPC should follow in the project review process, 3) to establish timelines for the speedy review and processing of projects, and 4) establish a consistent level of transparency for all.

Motion: The VNC Board of Officers will strike the existing Standing Rule Section 3 "LUPC Committee" (pages 3-4), and hereby adds the following replacement to its Standing Rules:



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Land Use and Planning Committee (LUPC):

I. LUPC Agendas

The Agenda shall be prepared by the Land Use & Planning Committee (LUPC) Chair or other LUPC member assigned by the committee and shall include an agenda item to decide the disposition of all new projects in the bi-weekly Certified Neighborhood Council (CNC) City Planning Early Notification Reports since the last LUPC meeting.

II. Review of Projects

Initiating Review. The LUPC is responsible for reviewing applications for new projects listed in the CNC City Planning Early Notification Reports since the last LUPC meeting.

LUPC will determine if any projects need additional review and a public LUPC hearing by considering the project's conformance with the VCP (Venice Community Plan), which includes all of Venice, and the LCP (Venice Local Coastal Program Land Use Plan), which includes only the Coastal Zone of Venice. If there is not a consensus of the group on whether to waive the review of a given project or not, further review of the project will be put to a vote of the committee.

Projects Needing No Further Review: Those projects for which additional review is waived will appear on the next VNC Board Agenda under the Agenda Item title "Projects for which VNC Recommendation is Waived, Without Prejudice." The Board can vote to approve the list or approve a modified list and send any one of the projects listed back to LUPC for review and a public hearing.

Projects Needing Further Review: Those projects selected for further review and hearing will be assigned by the Chair during the Committee's public meeting to a specific LUPC member who will work with the applicant and the neighbors to prepare a written LUPC Staff Report. If there is opposition to the assignment of the LUPC member to a given project, the assignment will be put to a vote of the committee. Within one month's time, or as soon as practicable, each project assigned shall be reviewed at a LUPC meeting at which a written Staff Report is presented that includes the recommendation, project description, pros and cons, a summary of community input, and any findings as required by the VNC Bylaws.

Projects for which a hearing is being held must contain the following minimum project information on the LUPC and VNC agendas:

Address:

All Case Numbers:



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LUPC member assigned:

Applicant/Applicant's Representative:

Email for City Planner assigned:

Detailed Project Description:

Link to City Planning website where application and plans are posted: [Link to LUPC Staff Report](#)

VNC Board Action. Those projects that have been heard at a LUPC meeting will appear on the next VNC Board agenda under the Agenda Item title "Projects for which LUPC Recommends Board Action." The Board can vote to accept the recommended action, reject the recommended action, or return it to LUPC for further review.

The results of the VNC Board LUPC agenda items shall be sent by the VNC Board Secretary, or assigned designee, within 10 business days of the meeting to the current City Planning Supervisor for Venice projects and the City Planner(s) assigned, with copies to the VNC Board.

LUPC

E. 1648 ABBOT KINNEY BLVD

MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends approval of a City CDP and a Specific Plan Project Permit for the project at 1648 Abbot Kinney for the construction a new 1- story with mezzanine, 22 foot high (flat roof), 2,651 square foot ground floor retail use commercial building on a 30 x 90 vacant lot (currently contains a temporary non-fixed structure) totaling 2,700.2 square feet.

With no auto parking spaces, providing 2 short- term and two long-term bicycle parking spaces, including a waiver of the one-foot dedication and a specific plan exception for no auto parking on site (see supporting docs)

11. NEW BUSINESS

12. BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

A. **MOTION:** VNC Board of Officers approves the May 2024 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER), see supporting documents

B. Discussion and motion on the approval of the 2024-2025 Administrative Packet



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MOTION: VNC Board of officers approves the 2024-2025 Administrative Packet including the 2024-2025 proposed Budget, second signers and credit card holders. (see supporting documents) (3-0-0)

- C. **MOTION:** The VNC Board of Officers approves an Outreach Expenditure of up to \$235 to purchase stand-alone Outreach Displays to be placed throughout Venice in select locations. (Outreach Committee 3/8/24, 3/0/0).

DESCRIPTION: To purchase & place small stand-alone outreach displays throughout the community. Possible Locations: Beyond Baroque, Venice Library, Boy's & Girls Club, various Schools, Parks and Rec Centers, Venice Heritage Museum, Venice Arts & other service providers. There will be a barcode for easy VNC Email sign ups, VNC information cards and any other pertinent VNC handouts (election/events/special meeting flyers, etc.). Replenishing and updating will occur as needed.

- D. **MOTION** The VNC Board of officers approves extending the walking tour app provided by STORY (formerly Pocket Sightings) for up to \$300 for the 2024-25 fiscal period (currently \$23/month) (2-0-0)

13. OCEAN FRONT WALK COMMITTEE

A. MOTORIZED VEHICLES, SCOOTERS AND E-BIKES ON OFW AND THE BIKE PATH (6-0-0)

MOTION: The VNC requests that LAPD and CD11 enforce the relevant ordinances and keep ALL MOTORIZED vehicles, including motorized scooters, Segways, and E-bikes off the Bike Path & OFW.

DESCRIPTION: Whereas this committee in the past has addressed the issue of electric bicycles & vehicles being co-mingled on the current bike path with no response.

Whereas the motorized vehicles (e-bikes, scooters & bikes) are still an issue on OFW and the Bike Path

Whereas these are safety issues for pedestrians; locals and tourists,

Whereas there is a high probability the users are uninsured,

Whereas the one person rider rule is not being enforced,

Whereas there is a lack of violation enforcement for those biking on the boardwalk. Whereas there is no violations officer on OFW ever, including during the peak summer months,

Whereas enforcement would dramatically curb the situation,

Whereas the current signage is obscured and ineffective,

Whereas collaboration between vendors and law enforcement is necessary if we are to control the situation at the beach this summer;



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B. ORDINANCE TO REGULATE CHAIN STORES ON OCEAN FRONT WALK (6-0-0)

The Ocean Front Walk Committee requests an ordinance be put into place to limit, prohibit or regulate national chain stores or "formula" establishments from North Venice Boulevard to Navy on Ocean Front Walk, and west of Speedway.

Whereas cities all over the country, including San Francisco, have enacted laws and ordinances to protect the uniqueness of certain areas, protect independent stores not being able to compete economically with large corporations, and protect creative communities from becoming homogenized and losing their appeal;

MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council requests an ordinance be put into place to limit, or regulate national chain stores or "formula" establishments from North Venice Boulevard to Navy on Ocean Front Walk, and west of Speedway with a letter sent to CD11.

14. LUPC

A. 2478 LINCOLN BLVD. (6-0-1)

DESCRIPTION: Case Number: ZA-2023-8371-CUB Project Description: CUB to allow the sale of beer and wine for off-site consumption with a proposed specialty wine store with operating hours from 8:00am to 11:00pm, daily.

Planning Case: <https://planning.lacity.gov/pdiscaseinfo/caseid/MjcyNTQz0>

MOTION : to allow the sale of beer and wine for off-site consumption with a proposed specialty wine store with operating hours from 8:00am to 11:00pm, daily.

B. 2520 LINCOLN BLVD. (6-0-1)

MOTION: Number: ZA-2023-7556-CUB Project Description: CUB to allow on-site sale of a full line of alcoholic beverages with a proposed 2,600 sf restaurant with 91 interior seats and 762 sf of patio area with 54 seats.
Hours of operation 8am to 2am daily.

Motion to approve project as presented.

Planning Case: <https://planning.lacity.gov/pdiscaseinfo/caseid/MjcxNjk30>



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15. ARBOR COMMITTEE

Comprehensive Plan For All Elements in Centennial Park (4-0-0)

MOTION: tie together all elements proposed for Centennial Park into one comprehensive plan.

DESCRIPTION: Whereas the VNC Board has supported several different elements to be added to Centennial Park; Whereas the Venice Arbor Committee wishes to tie together all the proposed plans into one cohesive plan, add necessary and desirable shade trees and native plantings, and has produced the attached drawing to express the placement of all the various elements; The VNC board of officers supports the planting of large trees and native understory, a previously supported pollinator garden, a shaded playground space, a native food and food forest as well as a previously supported Flying Carousel as expressed in the attached landscape plan.

16. BOARD COMMENT ON NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS

17. ADJOURN

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request will provide reasonable accommodation 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. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by calling (213) 978-1551 or email: NCsupport@lacity.org

Public Posting of Agendas -

The Venice Neighborhood Council agendas are posted for public review as follows:
Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd., Venice, CA 90291

- www.VeniceNC.org
- Receive agendas by email, subscribe to L.A. City's [Early Notification System \(ENS\)](#)

Notice to Paid Representatives -

If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 48.01 et seq. More information is available at



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ethics.lacity.org/lobbying. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or ethics.commission@lacity.org

Public Access of Records -

In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at our website: www.VeniceNC.org or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact the VNC Secretary, email at: Secretary@VeniceNC.org.

Reconsideration and Grievance Process -

For information on the NC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the NC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our website www.VeniceNC.org



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