

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



Board of Officers Meeting Minutes

Westminster Elementary School (Auditorium) 1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd, Venice, 90291

Monday, December 15, 2014 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: In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5 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 Beyond Baroque (681 Venice Blvd), the Venice Library 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 one (1) minute per speaker, unless modified by the presiding officer of the Board. No new speaker cards will be accepted once Public Comment has begun.

COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENTS: Any action taken by the Board may result in the filing of a related CIS

DISABILITY POLICY: See last page.

ALL AGENDA TIMES ARE APPROXIMATE AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE ON THE NIGHT OF THE MEETING.

1. Meeting Called to Order and Roll Call (7:07PM)

Thank you to Whole Foods, Abbot's Habit, and Jessica Blumenthal for the food and Refreshments

PRESENT: Mike Newhouse (MN), Marc Saltzberg (MS), Hugh Harrison (HH), Sylvia Aroth (SA), Jed Pauker (JP), Mike Bravo (MB), George Gineris (GG), Matt Kline (MK), Ira Koslow (IK), Eduardo Manilla (EM), Joe Murphy (JM), Bud Jacobs (BJ), Melissa Diner (MD), George Francisco (GF), Kelley Willis (KW)

ABSENT: Kristopher Valentine (KV), Robin Rudisill (RR), Erin Darling (ED), Abigail Myers (AM), Max Sloan (MSLO), Tommy Walker (TW),

2. Pledge Of Allegiance

3. Approval of Outstanding Board minutes

http://www.venicenc.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/VNC141118BoardMinutesDRAFT.pdf

ACTION: Minutes approved 15-0-1 [SA/JP].

FOR: MS, HH, SA, JP, MB, GG, MK, IK, EM, JM, BJ, RR, MD, GF, KW

AGAINST: ABSTAIN: MN

4. Approval of the Agenda (7:03PM – 1 minute)

ACTION: Item for Presentation of Power of Art inadvertently omitted. Motion to

approve agenda with the presentation passed 15-0-1 [MS/IK].

FOR: MS, HH, SA, JP, MB, GG, MK, IK, EM, JM, BJ, RR, MD, GF, KW

AGAINST: ABSTAIN: MN

5. Declaration of Ex Parte Communications or Conflicts-Of-Interest



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Several Board members indicated conversations with either Lydia Ponce or Cecilia Castillo regarding the ice rink proposal.

6. Scheduled Announcements and Presentations

A No public safety report.

B Government Reports

- City Councilmember Mike Bonin, Cecilia Castillo, Field Deputy, <u>Cecilia.Castillo@lacity.org</u> (310-568-8772)
 - Sidewalk vending zones report from CLA in committee.
 - Councilman Bonin introduced sharing economy motion specific to vacation rentals.
 - Winter Wonderland every week-end through January 4. Discussion of the cost of pictures with Santa
- State Assemblyperson Autumn Burke, Rep Odysseys Bostick 310.412.6400
 - Introduced himself to the community. Still setting up office.

C VNC Announcements

- Outreach Chair: Sylvia Aroth Sustainable living Town Hall will be held on February 28, 2015.
- Vice President Marc Saltzberg (<u>VicePresident@VeniceNC.org</u>)
 The Oxford Retention Lagoon will have its sick trees clear cut.
- Westside Regional Alliance of Councils- Mike Newhouse, WRAC President, Marc Saltzberg, VNC Representatives. (<u>Chair@westsidecouncils.org</u>)
 No meeting in December.
- Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC) Ivan Spiegel (Parliamentarian@VeniceNC.org)
 - General Manager of Transportation is available to attend Board meetings.
 - Resolution has been introduced in City Council to require Education and Neighborhood Committee [in charge of NCs] to hold meetings. No meeting since March 2014.

D The Great Venice Toy Drive is Underway! (Mariana Aguilar

The VNC and Vera Davis are collecting new, unwrapped, non-violent toys at various locations in Venice through December 18, 2014. Then, on December 20, 2014, we will give the toys away to kids, during a free fun-filled day at Oakwood Recreation Center including photos with Santa, food, arts and crafts, a moon bounce, and snow!

7. General Consent Calendar

A <u>Streamline Process for Community Impact Projects</u> (Ivan Spiegel, VNC Community Impact Project Administrator, parliamentarian@venicenc.org)

MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council shall submit the following Community Impact Statement in support of City Council File 14-1624 which will simplify the process for the undertaking of Community Improvement Projects:



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The Venice Neighborhood Council supports City Council Motion 14-1624 calling for the preparation and presentation of a report setting forth ways and means by which the City of Los Angeles may best serve community organizations seeking to undertake community improvement projects. The report should include but not be limited to a discussion of the following key elements: establishing a single point of contact for inquires and technical assistance, identifying efficiencies and streamlining of all existing processes and permits, resolution of liability responsibilities which can hinder volunteer efforts, and outreach strategy for stakeholder input.

LINK to Council Motion: http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2014/14-1624 mot 11-26-14.pdf

B Kingdom Day Parade (Tommy Walker)

MOTION: The VNC supports and encourages board and stakeholder participation in the Kingdom Day Parade march on 1/19/15 @ 11AM at the corner of MLK and Vermont.

C Standing Rule 29 on 24-Hour Special Meetings (Ira Koslow for REC ira.koslow@venicenc.org)

Pulled from consent calendar. Moved to Item 15A.

Denial of a Change to Standing Rule 18 (Ira Koslow for REC ira.koslow@venicenc.org)

Pulled from consent calendar. Moved to Item 15B.

E Pagoda Beautification (Melissa Diner melissa.diner@venicenc.org)

Pulled from consent calendar. Moved to Item 15C.

F. Cumulative Impact Report

Pulled from Agenda.

ACTION: Motion to approve Consent Calendar as amended passed 15-0-1 [JM/MD].

FOR: MS, HH, SA, JP, RR, MB, GG, MK, IK, EM, JM, BJ, MD, GF, KW

AGAINST: ABSTAIN: MN

- 8. <u>Land Use and Planning Committee (LUPC) Consent Calendar</u>
- A <u>VNC De Minimis Projects</u> (Robin Rudisill on behalf of LUPC, <u>Chair-lupc@VeniceNC.org</u>)

MOTION: The VNC Board recommends approval of the following project as a VNC De Minimis Project:

<u>1774 Washington Way (duplex to SFD),</u> Southeast Venice Subarea DIR-2014-1836-VSO-MEL <u>Applicant:</u> John Bowman

APPROVED BY LUPC on 12/4/14 by a vote of 4-0-2 (MM/RD)

B 27-29 Lighthouse St. (change from 2 to 3 units); Ballona Lagoon West Subarea



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Pulled from Consent Calendar. Moved to Item 12A.

C 627 Oxford Ave (SFD); Southeast Venice Subarea

Pulled from Consent Calendar. Moved to Item 12B.

D 625 Oxford Ave (SFD); Southeast Venice Subarea

Pulled from Consent Calendar. Moved to Item 12C.

E Request for LA City Planning to Prepare a Cumulative Impact Study for Venice

Pulled from Consent Calendar. Moved to Item 12D.

ACTION: Motion to approve LUPC Consent Calendar as amended passed 15-0-1 [JM/MD].

FOR: MS, HH, SA, JP, RR, MB, GG, MK, IK, EM, JM, BJ, MD, GF, KW

AGAINST: ABSTAIN: MN

Erin Darling [ED] joined meeting at 7:52.

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

Ivonne Guzman-Ned to follow activity downtown
Lydia Ponce, -Respect for Mother Earth.
Steve Williams-Concern regarding development
Krista Schwimmer, Tyrus Wilson, -Supports request for study on cumulative impact.
Maria Tenorio-No parking. Should have two minutes to speak.
Ilana Marosi-L.A.City Attorney hiring outside counsel and appointing CEQA Panel
Irv Katz-Thanks to Congressman Waxman for voting against banks.
Shelly Gomez-No closed door meetings.
Abraham-Take power back

10. Old Business [Discussion and possible action]

Motion for Reconsideration: Venice Beach Ice Skate Rink (20 Minutes) (Cecilia Castillo cecilia.castillo@lacity.org)

OLD MOTION

MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council supports the creation of an ice rink for the 2015/2016 season.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION

MOTION: WHEREAS, Venice Beach is the top tourist destination in the City of Los Angeles, drawing



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millions of people every year to its oceanfront attractions;

WHEREAS, Venice Beach and its visitors and residents will greatly benefit from an infusion of positive family friendly programing,

WHEREAS, the California Coastal Commission is reconsidering an item to allow the City to temporarily install an ice skate rink at Venice Beach for a 3 month period starting November 2015,

WHEREAS, a large portion of the proposed ice rink profits will be directed to maintenance and other necessary services at Venice Beach,

WHEREAS, the Venice Neighborhood Council had a cooperative working relationship with the City and Flightlinez when the Venice zipline was permitted and will have also have a cooperative working relationship with the Venice Beach ice skate rink when it is installed,

THEREFORE, the Venice Neighborhood Council supports the Ice Skate Rink and will work with the Department of Recreation & Parks and Council District 11 to ensure it is as sustainable as possible.

ACTION: Motion to reconsider vote against project at November Board meeting rejected

8-8-1 [HH/MS].

FOR: MS, HH, MK, EM, JM, MD, GF, KW AGAINST: SA, JP, RR, MB, GG, BJ, IK, ED

ABSTAIN: MN

11. LUPC

A <u>710 California Ave (SFD)</u>; Millwood Subarea; (10 Minutes)

Postponed until January Board meeting at request of LUPC Chair.

B 635 San Juan Ave (3 units); Oakwood Subarea (10 minutes)

ACTION: Motion to table in order that LUPC can reconsider in light of change in plans

from three to two units approved 16-0-1 [RR/MS].

FOR: MS, HH, MK, EM, JM, MD, GF, KW, SA, JP, RR, MB, GG, BJ, IK, ED

AGAINST: ABSTAIN: MN

Tommy Walker joined meeting at 8:07.

C <u>29-47 Windward (surface parking lot);</u> North Venice Subarea (20 minutes)

ZA-2014-3650-CDP and ENV-2014-3651-CE



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ACTION: Motion to have discussion only and postpone vote to January meeting approved

11-6-1 [RR/MS].

FOR: MS, HH, JM, MD, KW, SA, JP, RR, MB, GG, ED

AGAINST: GF, MK, EM, BJ, IK, TW

ABSTAIN: MN

D 55 27th Ave (SFD); North Venice Subarea (10 Minutes)

ZA-2014-2356-ZAA-SPP and ENV-2014-2357-CE

CITY HEARING TOOK PLACE ON DECEMBER 4, 2014

<u>Project Description</u>: due to LADBS citation, requesting approval of unpermitted work done to convert 267 sq ft of mezzanine space into habitable rooms & change a 2-story bldg w/mezzanine to a 3-story bldg, incl ZAA for approval of bldg mods for 3' side yards instead of 4' required for 3 stories, RD1.5-1-0 zone

Applicant: David Zohn & Jonathan Lonner

LUPC Staff: Gabriel Ruspini & Kathleen Rawson

MOTION: The VNC Board recommends approval of the project, for the following reasons: the project size is < 300 sq ft, the change from open mezzanine to enclosed bedrooms occurred over 25 years after the building was issued its current Certificate of Occupancy and it does not appear that there was any bad intent related to the original mezzanine structure, the outside of the building is not impacted, the building is adjacent to Pacific Ave on one side, and almost all of the neighbors have given their written support of the project.

APPROVED BY LUPC on 12/4/14 by a vote 4-0-2 (RD/RA)

http://www.venicenc.org/55-27th-ave/

ACTION: Motion approved 17-0-1 [RR/MK].

FOR: MS, HH, MK, EM, JM, MD, GF, KW, SA, JP, RR, MB, GG, BJ, IK, ED, TW

AGAINST: ABSTAIN: MN

12. LUPC Motions pulled from Consent Calendar

A. <u>27-29 Lighthouse St. (change from 2 to 3 units)</u>; Ballona Lagoon West Subarea

CPC-2014-2654-SPE-SPP-CDP-MEL and ENV-2014-2655-MND CITY HEARING DECEMBER 15, 2014, 1645 CORINTH AVE, 2ND FLOOR

Project Description: legalize conversion of storage room into 3rd unit for (E) duplex

<u>Applicant:</u> Alvaro Ramirez & Henry Ramirez LUPC Staff: Robert Aronson & Ramsey Daham

MOTION: The VNC Board recommends approval of the project, a 441.52 sq ft grandfathered unit with 2 assigned parking spaces in the garage, with the following findings and conditions: Findings:

i. The project is located at the end of an alley and this exceptional condition makes the parking availability greater and thus they could park additional cars.



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- ii. The project's illegal unit has existed for at least 25 years, so there will not be any actual increase in density in the neighborhood.
- iii. The project will provide additional affordable housing where it is needed.
- iv. The project is a multi-family project in a multi-family neighborhood so there is no material increase in density and hence no detriment to the neighborhood.
- v. The project is consistent with the general goals re affordable housing.

Conditions:

- i. That the level of affordability shall be the low level, for the life of the project.
- ii. That the owner has an obligation to notify HCID within 10 days of receiving notice from the existing tenant that they will be terminating their tenancy.
- iii. That the existing tenant shall be permitted to stay even though the existing tenant may not meet the income level for the low level of affordability.
- iv. That in any proceeding where it is found that the existing tenant has vacated and that the owner has not complied with all procedures to ensure that the new tenant is eligible at the low level of affordability, that the owner shall pay all investigation and related expenses and attorney's fees to the City.

APPROVED BY LUPC on 11/25/14 by a vote of 7-0-0 (RA/MK)

http://www.venicenc.org/27-29-lighthouse-st/

ACTION: Motion to amend (i) to moderate level by RR failed due to lack of a second.

Motion approved 16-1-1 [RR/MK].

FOR: MS, HH, MK, EM, JM, MD, GF, KW, SA, JP, RR, MB, GG, BJ, IK, ED

AGAINST: TW ABSTAIN: MN

Bud Jacobs left meeting at 8:54.

B. 627 Oxford Ave (SFD); Southeast Venice Subarea

ZA-2014-2141-CDP and ENV-2014-2142-CE and DIR-2014-4314-VSO-MEL (11/18/14)

CITY HEARING TOOK PLACE ON NOVEMBER 25, 2014

Project Description: Demo SFD/construct new 3-story SFD w/att 2-car (on lift) garage, & Mello

determination, R1-1 zone Applicant: Matthew Royce

LUPC Staff: Robert Aronson & Mehrnoosh Mojalalli

MOTION: The VNC Board recommends approval of the project in substantial conformance with the plans marked as "Exhibit A," pending receipt of the HCID Mello Act determination that no affordable units exist on the premises, by the time the ZA opinion is issued. If the determination is not timely received or if it is determined that affordable units exist on the premises, the VNC recommends denial of the project.

APPROVED BY LUPC on 12/4/14 by a vote 4-0-2 (RA/MM) Exhibit A for Motion in Supporting Documentation:

http://www.venicenc.org/627-oxford-ave/



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ACTION: Motion approved 11-4-2 [RR/MS].

FOR: MS, HH, MK, EM, JM, MD, SA, RR, MB, GG, IK

AGAINST: TW, ED, GF, KW

ABSTAIN: MN, JP

C. 625 Oxford Ave (SFD); Southeast Venice Subarea

ZA-2014-2137-CDP and ENV-2014-2138-CE and DIR-2014-4316-VSO-MEL (11/18/14)

CITY HEARING TOOK PLACE ON NOVEMBER 25, 2014

Project Description: Demo SFD/construct new 2-story SFD over basement w/att 2-car (on lift) garage

& 1 uncovered parking, & Mello determination, R1-1 zone

Applicant: Matthew Royce

LUPC Staff: Robert Aronson & Mehrnoosh Mojalalli

MOTION: The VNC Board recommends approval of the project in substantial conformance with the plans marked as "Exhibit A," pending receipt of the HCID Mello Act determination that no affordable units exist on the premises, by the time the ZA opinion is issued. If the determination is not timely received or if it is determined that affordable units exist on the premises, the VNC recommends denial of the project.

APPROVED BY LUPC on 12/4/14 by a vote 4-0-2 (RA/MM)

Exhibit A for Motion in Supporting Documentation:

http://www.venicenc.org/625-oxford-ave/

ACTION: Motion approved 11-4-2 [RR/MS].

FOR: MS, HH, MK, EM, JM, MD, SA, RR, MB, GG, IK

AGAINST: TW, ED, GF, KW

ABSTAIN: MN, JP

D. Request for LA City Planning to Prepare a Cumulative Impact Study for Venice

MOTION: Whereas, development in Venice has been increasing at a significant and unforeseen pace since the environmental analysis for the Venice Coastal Zone Specific Plan was last performed, in 2004; and

Whereas, many of those developments are incompatible with and are having negative impacts on the existing neighborhoods; and

Whereas, the increasing rate of development now found in the Coastal Zone, is creating a serious concern within Venice neighborhoods that the cumulative impact of successive projects of the same type in the same place appear to be having a very significant adverse effect on the character, social diversity, and quality of life of the neighborhoods; and

Whereas having such a study is critically important to the analysis currently being done by the Venice Neighborhood Council with respect to approaches to be used in analyzing development projects for purposes of compatibility of character, mass and scale;



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Therefore, be it resolved that the VNC Board requests the City of Los Angeles Department of Planning to prepare a cumulative environmental impact study on development in Venice and report their findings by April 30, 2015.

ACTION: Motion to have discussion only and postpone vote to January meeting rejected

3-13-1 [JM/MD].

FOR: JM, MD, GF,

AGAINST: MK, EM, BJ, IK, TW, MS, HH, KW, SA, JP, RR, MB, GG, ED

ABSTAIN: MN

Motion approved 14-0-3 [RR, ED]

FOR: MS, HH, MK, EM, SA, RR, MB, GG, IK, JP, TW, ED, GF, KW

AGAINST:

ABSTAIN: MN, MD, JM

14. Presentation of Power of Art

15. New Business

A <u>OFW Playground and Bathroom Activation</u> (5 minutes) (Melissa Diner on behalf of the OFW Committee melissa.diner@venicenc.org)

MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council supports the installation of lighting that would illuminate the playgrounds and bathrooms both on Rose Ave and adjacent to Park headquarters to promote a safe environment on the boardwalk and create family and children friendly activities after sunset. Shelly Motion, Melissa Second. APPROVED BY OFW COMMITTEE 2-0-1

ACTION: Motion to amend to include requirement for environmentally friendly lighting

with an emphasis on marine life and to require bathrooms to remain open

whenever bathrooms open approved 12-3-2 [ED/EM].

FOR: JM, MD, GF, EM, BJ, TW, KW, SA, JP, RR, MB, GG, ED

AGAINST: MK, IK, HH, ABSTAIN: MN, MS

Motion as amended approved 13-2-2 [MD/SA]

FOR: MS, HH, EM, SA, MB, GG, JP, TW, ED, GF, KW, MD, JM

AGAINST: MK, IK, ABSTAIN: MN, RR

B Pavilion (10 minutes) (Melissa Diner on behalf of the OFW Committee melissa.diner@venicenc.org)

MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council supports the installation of a permanent pavilion on Windward Plaza that can be used for multiple activities including dance hall, ice rink, roller rink, central market, movies etc.

Therese, Shelly APPROVED BY OFW COMMITTEE 3-0-0



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ACTION: Motion to postpone for one month approved 16-0-1 [RR/MD]. FOR: MS. HH. MK. EM. JM. MD. GF. KW. SA. JP. RR. MB. GG. IK. ED. TW

AGAINST: ABSTAIN: MN

14. Consent Calendar Items Pulled from Consent Calendar.

A. Standing Rule 29 on 24-Hour Special Meetings (Ira Koslow for REC ira.koslow@venicenc.org)

MOTION: The VNC Board shall create the following as Standing Rule 29: All 24 Hour Notice "Special Meetings" shall require written pre-approval by the VNC President or Vice President or a designee appointed by the President. (HH/IK unanimous)

ACTION: Motion approved 16-0-1 [IK/HH].

FOR: MS, HH, MK, EM, JM, MD, GF, KW, SA, JP, RR, MB, GG, IK, ED, TW

AGAINST: ABSTAIN: MN

B. <u>Denial of a Change to Standing Rule 18</u> (Ira Koslow for REC <u>ira.koslow@venicenc.org</u>)

MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council denies changing SR 18 to the following: The Venice Neighborhood Council MAY publicize the events, activities, announcements and information from the Departments, Agencies and Officeholders of the City of Los Angeles, the County of Los Angeles, the State of California and the Federal Government of the United States of America. Publicity of events and activities of other organizations is permitted if the event is free, open to the public, and with approval of the President of the VNC. (HH/IK denied 0-2)

ACTION: Motion approved 13-3-1 [IK/HH].

FOR: MS, HH, EM, JM, KW, SA, JP, RR, MB, GG, IK, ED, TW

AGAINST: MD, GF, MK

ABSTAIN: MN

C. Pagoda Beautification (Melissa Diner melissa.diner@venicenc.org)

Motion postponed until the January meeting at the request of proponent as the Language in the agenda is incorrect.

15. Treasurers Report (9:09PM - 10 minutes) (Hugh Harrison on behalf of Budget & Finance Committee, Treasurer@VeniceNC.org) **[EXHIBIT]** [Discussion and possible action]

MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council Board approves the expenditure reports for November 2014.

APPROVED BY BUDGET COMMITTEE 4-0-0

ACTION: Motion approved 16-0-1 [HH/JM].



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FOR: MS, HH, MK, EM, JM, MD, GF, KW, SA, JP, RR, MB, GG, IK, ED, TW

AGAINST: ABSTAIN: MN

16. Motion to adjourn unanimous at 10:30.

List of Venice Neighborhood Council Committees & Chairs - Volunteers Welcome

Administrative Mike Newhouse Communications Jed Pauker
Arts Eduardo Manilla Discussion Forum Joe Murphy
Budget & Finance Hugh Harrison Business George Francisco

Education Bud Jacobs Business George Francisco
Housing Abigail Myers, Helen Stotler

Land Use and PlanningRobin RudisillMass/Scale/CharacterSue KaplanNeighborhoodMarc SaltzbergParking/TransportationAbigail MyersOcean Front WalkMelissa DinerPublic SafetyGeorge Francisco

Outreach Sylvia Aroth Santa Monica Airport Laura Silagi, Abigail Myers

Rules & Election Ira Koslow

Environmental Abigail Myers, Erin Sullivan-Ward, Barbara Lonsdale

DISABILITY POLICY: As covered under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Venice Neighborhood Council does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, 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. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at 213-485-1360 or email NCSupport@lacity.org.