



# Venice Neighborhood Council

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## VNC Neighborhood Committee Meeting Minutes

**Meeting Date:** January 3, 2012

**Meeting Time:** 8:00am – 9:30am

**Meeting Location:** Extra Space Storage Meeting Room - 658 South Venice Blvd, Venice, CA 90291

**Contact:** [Marc.Saltzberg@VeniceNC.org](mailto:Marc.Saltzberg@VeniceNC.org) [www.VeniceNC.org/Neighborhood-committee](http://www.VeniceNC.org/Neighborhood-committee)

1. 8:00am - Call to Order & Roll Call & Introductions

Adam Glick		Linda Lucks (ex-officio)	
Bill Boyd	Present	Lydia Pelosi	Present
Colleen Saro		Marc Saltzberg (Chair)	Present
DeDe Audette	Present	Margot Michon	
Gogi Overhoff	Present	Michael Nelson	
Jay Cole	Present	Michael Stenger	Present
Jerry Jaffe	Present	Nicholas Hippisley-Coxe	Present
Jessica Martinez		Robin Rudisil	
Joshua Blacker	Present	Tom Sauer	
<i>New Members – this meeting:</i>		<i>Guests:</i>	
Antoinette Reynolds	Present	Gary Harris	Present
Daffodil Tyminski	Present		

2. 8:20 - Approve Agenda & appoint secretary to take minutes – [Lydia Pelosi for minutes](#) – [Agenda Approved unanimously](#)

3. 8:25 - Consider Antoinette Reynolds as representative from Oakwood: North - Click [HERE](#) to see application  
**MOTION: Approve Antoinette Reynolds as representative from Oakwood: North – APPROVED Unanimously**  
 Consider Nadine Semer as representative from the Silver Triangle – Click [HERE](#) to see application  
[Nadine is withdrawing her name – insufficient time available](#)

4. 8:30 - ANNOUNCEMENTS – Information about specific events important to Venice

5. 8:35 - PUBLIC COMMENT – non-agendized items related to Neighborhood Committee only

6. 8:40 - Approve minutes from previous meetings – Click links to see DRAFT minutes: [10/25/12](#) and [11/29/12](#)  
**MOTION: Approve minutes from previous meetings of 10/25/12 & 11/29/12 – APPROVED unanimously**

7. 8:45 - Discussion & possible action regarding Speed Monitoring Radar Signs (see page 2)  
**MOTION: Approve Speed Monitoring Signs Resolution – APPROVED unanimously**

8. 8:50 – Neighborhood Committee Organizational Issues

a. Email addresses – [everyone has VNC emails – they will be published on our website and all committee messages will be sent to the new addresses. It is each members responsibility to log on and monitor.](#)

b. Responsibilities of Committee Members

i. Representing the Neighborhood

1. Outreach to neighborhood (community email groups, door knocks and greeting packets, neighborhood and Home Owner Associations, non-profits and Businesses)
2. Communication of neighborhood concerns and motions Neighborhood Committee and City
3. Communication of City / VNC issues to neighborhood  
[We need to do a better job introducing ourselves to the community, some of us have the luxury of a homeowners association where we get emails of all our neighbors, newsletters, etc. Rest of us will have to go door to door, gather email addresses, share info packets.](#)

Nick is a Red-Cross representative & volunteer, he brought examples of handouts we can put in packets. Suggestion of including an emergency "neighbor map," 4-5 neighbors on each side, indicating gas and water shut offs for an emergency, know who has pets, who is elderly, etc. We may be first Neighborhood Council contact that some of these people see, We need to be sure to ask: what are your primary concerns?

Development of an "Introduction Flier" Nick, Lydia, Josh and Gogi named to design the flier

- Daffodil: suggests "next door" social site, google funded, nextdoor.com
- Michael Nelson: Windward area, very dense, hard to get to know all your neighbors
- Jay: do we reach out to all businesses as well? We should and we don't. Abbot Kinney Merchants, Chamber, etc.
- Jerry and Margot are concerned about AK others are concerned about Washington bars
- Get involved in groups, events, nonprofits in your community, PTA, teachers associations, etc.

ii. Community Improvement Projects (CIPs)

40% of total VNC budget is reserved for CIPs, and the Neighborhood Committee recommends how 2/3rd of CIP funding should be distributed. Ilean Spiegle and Marc will provide training on how to score projects and how money can be distributed. The Neighborhood Committee will have a special meeting in May to rank projects submitted.

- c. Brown Act: it applies to Committees – Click [HERE](#) for way too much information from the City Attorney
- The Brown Act is the State of California Open Meeting Law. All meetings involving a decision-making number of a standing committee's members must be held in public, with proper notice and agenda. A "decision-making number of members" is a majority of the quorum required to do business (in the case of the Neighborhood Committee, that's 6). If you have any private discussion with 6 or more committee members about any issue that may come before the committee, that violates the Brown Act.
  - Serial meetings (chain conversation about same issue) also violate the Brown Act.
  - Never use "Reply All" when responding with you opinion about an issue. Bottom line – it's best NOT to express your opinion about a topic to other Committee members (or in public) until we have a properly agendized meeting.
- d. MOTION: Resolved, the VNC Neighborhood Committee shall follow the VNC Code of Civility (see page 4)  
Passed unanimously after review
- e. Conduct of meetings & Robert's Rules (holding meetings with 20 people reporting)
- f. Neighborhoods – possible changes: defining Rose Corridor & adding Oakwood: West Neighborhood  
MOTION: Define new area, Oakwood – West with following boundaries: Westminster to Navy, Pacific to ABK.  
Daffodil Tyminski will represent this area. Passed Unanimously
- g. Quorum and next meeting date (Jan 24 at 7:30PM)  
19 people on our committee, quorum is 10

9. 9:30pm – Adjourn

## Resolution: Speed Monitoring Radar Signs on Pacific Ave. in Venice

Whereas, it is the responsibility of the City of Los Angeles to provide for the safe flow of traffic on city streets, roads and boulevards and,

Whereas, traffic on Pacific Blvd in Venice does not flow safely as evidenced by the high number of accidents between Navy Street and Washington Blvd (see Appendix 1) and,

Whereas, a comprehensive traffic study has not been completed for Pacific Blvd but excessive vehicle speed has been a factor in many of the reported accidents and,

Whereas, Speed Monitoring Radar Signs are known to have a "calming" effect on traffic;

Therefore be it resolved, the Venice Neighborhood Council agrees to set aside "\$xxx" for installation of Speed Monitoring Radar Signs to demonstrate its commitment to improve traffic safety in the Pacific and Brooks area and asks Council District 11 and the Mayor's Office to find ways to provide the additional funding required to complete the installation of Speed Monitoring Radar Signs on Pacific in the vicinity of Brooks Ave. When these funds are identified the VNC asks CD11 to introduce a City Council Motion asking the City to install the Speed Monitoring Equipment on an expedited schedule.

This resolution shall be sent to Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, City of Los Angeles Council District 11, the Los Angeles City Council and the Los Angeles Department of Transportation.

## APPENDIX to Resolution re: Speed Monitoring Radar Signs

## Accident Summary for Pacific between Navy Street and Washington Blvd.

Note: Data is not complete

Street	Year	Accidents		Injuries
		Total	Speed Related?	
Brooks	2006	4	4	3
	2007	3	3	3
	2008	4	4	3
	2009	4	4	4
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>13</b>
Navy	2006	2	2	1
	2007	4	4	5
	2008	3	3	5
	2009	2	2	2
	2010	2	2	3
	2011	1	1	1
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>17</b>
Rose	2006	4	4	4
	2007	3	3	6
	2008	3	3	4
	2009	1	1	1
	2010	7	7	4
	2011	3	3	1
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>20</b>
Washington	2006	2	1	3
	2007	4	0	1
	2008	3	1	2
	2009	3	3	3
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>
Windward	2006	4	3	3
	2007	5	4	6
	2008	1	0	0
	2009	1	1	2
	2010	4	2	2
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>13</b>
Others	2006	2	2	2
	2007	2	2	1
	2009	1	1	1
	2010	1	0	1
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Grand Total:</b>		<b>83</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>77</b>

## Venice Neighborhood Council Code of Civility

1. I will conduct myself in a professional and civil manner at all times as a representative of the Venice Neighborhood Council.
2. I will treat each member of the board, the committee and members of the public with respect at all times, regardless of an individual's opinion, ethnicity, race, sexuality, age, disability, or religion.
3. Even in the face of disagreement or differences of opinion, I will demonstrate esteem and deference for my colleagues and the public.
4. Under no circumstances during Neighborhood Council meetings, committee meetings, functions, or events will I engage in or threaten to engage in any verbal or physical attack on any other individual.
5. I will commit to communicate my ideas and points of view clearly, and allow others to do the same without interruption.
6. I will not use language that is abusive, threatening, obscene, or slanderous, including using profanities, insults, or other disparaging remarks or gestures.
7. Derogatory language about an individual's ethnicity, race, sexuality, age, disability, or religion is not acceptable.
8. I will take responsibility for my own actions, and will work to fulfill my role and responsibilities as specified in the bylaws.
9. I will commit to learn the applicable laws that govern Neighborhood Council, including bylaws, standing rules, the Brown Act, ethics rules, city ordinances, and the City Charter, and will not knowingly violate any of the above.
10. I will abide by the Neighborhood Council's meeting procedures or rules in order to create a safe and effective environment for conducting business.
11. I will promote and enforce a safe meeting environment at all times. At moments when members of the public become disruptive and violate the rules of civility that we have pledged to follow, I will join my fellow board members in demanding that the persons conduct themselves in a respectful and orderly manner even if I agree with the point of view that is being expressed.
12. I will seek to present information truthfully, and will not knowingly misrepresent, mischaracterize, or misquote information received from others.
13. I pledge to truly listen to and hear other points of view.
14. I will practice the art of being able to disagree without being disagreeable.
15. If I find myself representing my personal interests before my community's interests, I will publicly disclose the differences and recuse myself from voting on such matters.
16. I will commit to good faith efforts to resolve any grievances that come before the board as specified in the bylaws.
17. I owe it to my fellow board members, the public, and the decision-makers who we are trying to influence to make the best possible effort to understand the issues before me. I will "do my homework".