

(DRAFT)
Grass Roots Venice Neighborhood Council

Board of Officers Meeting Minutes

December 13 15, 2005

1. Meeting was called to order by DeDe Audet at 7:35 pm
2. **Roll Call** by Phil Raider, 17 present including DeDe Audet, Colette Bailey, LJ Carusone, CJ Cole, Sylviane Dungan, Yolanda Gonzalez, Michael King, Linda Lucks, Challis Macpherson, Brett Miller, Ingrid Mueller, Stan Muhammad, Richard Myers, Naomi Nightingale, Susan Papadakis, Dianna Pollard, Phil Raider, Kelly S. Willis, Ivan Spiegel, Parliamentarian

Absent: Peter Force, Rebecca Tafoya, Mindy Taylor-Ross,

3. **Approval of Minutes**

Move that approval of the minutes of the November 15, 2005 board meeting were postponed until the December Board meeting.

Moved by PR, 2nd by CM

Motion carried 15-0-0

4. **Treasurers Report**

We have \$6,070 available in demand warrants, \$6,112 on our prepaid card and \$89,749.24 in unallocated funds. Only expenses to date have been miscellaneous type items, PO Box rental and meeting room rentals.

Move that we accept the treasurer's report as presented.

Moved by CM, 2nd by YG

Motion carried 15-0-0

5. **Committee Reports**

Ocean Front Walk LL reports that committee met on 11/28/05. Approximately 30 members representing all factions of the OFW community participated. The Committee has prepared a letter urging the Councilman to move quickly with the revisions to the ordinance and to reinstate the portions of the ordinance that are not constitutionally questionable. The Committee also requests that the Council Office co-sponsor with The GRVNC a community forum to expedite the formation of an acceptable ordinance. The OFW Committee will coordinate the forum with The Events Committee.

Motion to approve the letter was made and withdrawn as the item appears on the consent calendar.

Land Use & Planning Committee CM reports that she has assembled the motions of the LUPC into letters supporting the LUPC's actions. CM offered a motion to send a letter concerning the Venice Blvd easement vacation issue as heard by The LUPC.

PR objected to this and other motions from The LUPC because no motions were forwarded to the Excom to be included on this night agenda.

The following motions were made and passed by The LUPC;

A. Recommending that LA City and The Cal Coastal Commission (CCC) retain the Venice Blvd. easement in the public domain.

B. Requesting that the LA City Planning Dept. begin to modify the VSP to allow only one rooftop structure per building.

C. To approve the project concept submitted by The Ambrose group subject to 8 conditions outlined by the committee.

D. To deny the request of The Amuse Café for several variances.

E. Requesting that the LA County Regional Planning Commission scale back the height and density of the proposed project on Washington Bl.

Move that we accept Committee report as read.

Moved by NN, 2nd by YG

Motion carried 14-0-1

Government Relations Committee LJC noted that there was a typo on the agenda and that LL was co-chair of the Government Relations Committee not the bylaws committee as written. The committee recommends that The GRVNC join the city wide Charter of NC's and that LJC be appointed as liaison and to approve LL as co-chair.

Bylaws Committee LJC reports two items out of the committee. First being the single change to the Election date portion of bylaws from June to September. Second concerns previously submitted bylaws changes and the possibility that these changes would force The GRVNC to cease operating. LJC requests the Board approve a letter to DONE asking that the previously submitted changes be held until a comprehensive set of changes is submitted.

Disaster Preparedness Committee CB reports that the committee is working on the town hall meeting but the date need to be firmed up ASAP. NN is talking with David Moring re the available dates.

Communications & Outreach RM listed the upcoming events and committee meetings.

Move that we take public comment on the committee reports and that the comments be limited to two minutes.

Moved by PR, 2nd by LL

Motion carried 15-0-1

OFW Committee public comment

Emily Winters, there are 6-7 illegal alcohol billboards and that she complained last year. Thinks we should have art instead of advertising

Steve Heumann, thinks that the letter represents the group and wants it sent tonight, would also like the OFW forum to take place ASAP.

LUPC public comment

Arnold Springer, noted that developer of Abbot Kinney & Brooks project hadn't done any outreach. Would like LUPC to adopt public outreach as part of its protocol. Is concerned about the volumetric approach to planning.

Emily Winters, apologized for sounding critical, noted that Ingrid Mueller was the only board member supporting the Lincoln Place Vigil.

Suzanne Thompson, wants project at 1101/1109 Venice Bl on the agenda, project was continued because of posting. Wants printed reports from the committees.

Charles Bousquet, feels that the hotel project is way oversized, it wraps around his project and will destroy it. Will create traffic and is out of character.

Unidentifiable, if anyone gets a variance others will be able to ask for variances as well,

Christine You (?), supports growth in the neighborhood but wants it but has been negatively impacted by restaurants and deliveries, is worried that we're destroying the neighborhood.

Barry (?), supports Christine, thinks AKB is too noisy, too fast, too many drunks. Thinks the wrong type of people are being attracted to the area, doesn't think hotel is appropriate.

Jim Smith, only person opposed to the hotel at The LUPC, plan was too sketchy, committee broke the height limit by 10', geographic rep wasn't there. Noted that committee members met with the developers. Wants a moratorium on these type of developments in Venice.

Kristen Lonner, represents the hotel folks, our designs are very preliminary, our design is very green and we'll meet with the neighbors.

Steve Friedman, questions the benefit and appropriateness of members of the LUPC meeting with developers.

Government Relations Committee public comment

Suzanne Thompson, encourages the board to support the Congress of

Neighborhood Councils, and reminds LJC that the board must approve any actions before taking them to the Congress.

Bylaws Committee public comment

Jim Smith, was past committee chair, thanks the committee members. The two sets of bylaws have been mishandled by DONE, they are two years late. The problem is meshing the 2 sets. Doesn't want any delays by GRVNC.

Marta Evry, member bylaws committee, the 2 sets of bylaws are contradictory, board is running on borrowed time, 2 options are do nothing and face problems or work through a bylaws change. Done wants direction on how to handle the changes from GRVNC.

Suzanne Thompson, has been looking at BONC minutes and believes that BONC has accepted the bylaws changes already.

6. Consent Calendar

- A. Letter to Bill Rosendahl re OFW Ordinance
- B. 2nd VP YG to handle street repairs
- C. Viacom-Decaux street furniture referred to DP, Chair of Arts Committee
- D. Change name on Surfrider Proposal to GRVNC Proposal, (Prop O)
- E. Approve NN as Education Committee Chair
- F. Appoint DP as chair, pro tem, of the Arts Committee
- G. Council request to develop a Comprehensive storm water runoff plan
- H. Approval of LL to co-chair Government Relations Committee, and chair of OFW Committee

Item E was pulled from the calendar by PR

DeDe Audet reviewed the items remaining on the consent calendar. Item D was questioned but left on after it was noted that there was a 12/16/05 deadline. There was further clarification of Committee Chairs.

Move that the consent calendar be approved with the exception of Item E.

Moved by CLC, 2nd by PR

Motion carried 15-0-0

Move that we table selection of NN as chair of the Education Committee.

Moved by PR, 2nd by CM

PR supports NN as chair but wants to hold off appointment pending resolution of the numerous grievances filed against GRVNC by Rick Selan as relates to the Education committee and chair selection.

YG would like NN appointed and then have grievances resolved.

NN feels that we need to get started and review all the education proposals.

KSW thinks that the concerns about the grievances are appropriate about

installing someone and then possibly having to remove them. Feels that the problems can be resolved as soon as we actually have a functioning committee

MK thinks that it's in the best issue to have the committee move ahead.

RM understands the concerns but thinks not having a chair won't change anything.

Pam Anderson has worked with Rick Selan, these are his techniques for getting what he want, he's always causing a problem if he doesn't get what he wants.

Dennis Hathaway, supports NN, when he was chair he relieved a grievance from this guy weekly.

Marta Evry, 2nds what the others say but doesn't want to derail the committee.

Motion failed 1-14-0

Move that we approve Naomi as Chair of Education Committee

Moved by CJC, 2nd by LJC

Motion carried 15-0-0

7. **Old Business**

A. Amend bylaws to change election date from June to September

Move that we accept the bylaws amendments as proposed by the Bylaws Committee and circulated to the Board.

Moved by PR, 2nd by LL

Suzanne Thompson thought this wasn't on the agenda

Marta Evry, committee member supports amendment, reiterates the need to delay the election.

Joel Shields, would like to see the bylaws amended in an orderly way, doesn't want to extend terms any more than necessary.

Motion carried 15-0-0

B. Join NC Congress with LJ Carusone as GRVNC liaison.

The Grass Roots Venice Neighborhood Council hereby ratifies the Charter for a Citywide Congress of Neighborhood Councils on this day, December 13, 2005. By this act, the council signifies its intent to join the Congress as a member with full rights and privileges.

Move that Grass Roots Venice join the Congress of Neighborhood Councils.

Moved by LJC, 2nd by CM

Cliff Cheng, representing the Congress, 20% figure has been achieved, and the 1st meeting will be on the 4th of 5th of February. Proposal has been translated into Spanish to enable further outreach.

Motion carries 15-0-0

C. Mayors Budget Survey

LJC questioned the board members as to completion o the survey.

NN not everyone has a computer, could we please provide paper work for those who can't get it on line.

LL it's important that we complete these surveys. We need to get community input to give our survey consideration. We need to turn in a lot of surveys.

CM, surveys are at the Venice Library.

RM, Outreach committee will work with this at next meeting,

YG will pick up 2 boxes of surveys from downtown.

Suzanne Thompson, "this is pathetic, this is terrible" last year had over 300 applications. This is a serious matter. "I'm embarrassed. This is shameful." This is not just for the board.

Pam Anderson, need to better with outreach.

Marta Evry, will have surveys at her Holiday Party.

Edward "Lalo" Wilson, need to do more outreach, there are many issues out there that will come to your attention.

D. Attendance of Board Members

NN, All board member need to attend all board meetings.

PR, All board members need to be on committees, so it you're not one get on it.

8. **Announcements/Public Comment**

Susan Sherod, the proposal was originally going to be submitted by Surfrider and supported by GRVNC. Surfrider will be submitting another proposal and hopes that GRVNC will support them as Surfrider is supporting GRVNC. Letter from Surfrider distributed.

DA has been following the wastewater problem and is asking for a comprehensive plan for Venice.

LAPD Toy Drive, flyer distributed

CM, Has been a member of the Mobility Action Committee for 14 years and encourages other to get involved.

DA distributed a flyer re moratorium on commercial building in the Lincoln Corridor

Suzanne Thompson, invites all to a walking tour at Lincoln Place. Venice Arts Council is holding their workshop.

Noel Weiss, re Lincoln Place one of the few times when city leadership needs to demonstrate moral courage. Wants GRVNC to communicate with Bill Rosendahl, wants GRVNC to hold an emergency meeting right now. Has 5 things City Council can do.

Rose Murphy, The Housing Dept needs to eminent domain Lincoln Place. Need to preserve the integrity of the structures. TV will interview LP tenants tonight.

Don Geagan, wants board to get behind the Lincoln Place tenants.

Dennis Hathaway, Rosendahl is pushing clean money campaign and would like GRVNC to support his efforts.

Jim Smith, wants board to adjourn in memory of Stan Williams. Wants an emergency meeting on Lincoln Place. Reported on City Council meeting.

NN, feels that the board has demonstrated its support of Lincoln Place tenants.

Marta Evry, thanks the Board for its support of Lincoln Place, would like printed agendas and material for public meetings. Wants Board to write a letter to give DONE more direction on handling the amendments it has before it now.

Phil Raider, at the ExCom meeting I opposed moving the public comment to the end of the meeting. Be respectful of the time limitations.

Edward Wilson, want to know why this board can't make sure he's at every meeting.

NN we need to do a better job of outreach.

Move that we have an emergency meeting right now to write a letter to Rosendahl including Noel Weiss 5 points.

Moved by IM, 2nd by LL

LL we are on record supporting Lincoln Place and thinks we can just go ahead and write another letter because we have taken action in the past.

PR these motions are not Brown Acted and cannot be acted on just as the motions from the LUPC could not be presented. This is way out of line.

RM at the emergency meeting several weeks ago we sent a strong letter, 21 letter room the Board members would be more powerful, we don't have these on our agenda.

SD 21 letters would be very strong message.

NN strongly urges board members to write individual letters.

IS motion not valid.

LJC wants a sense of the board re requesting that DONE hold off on taking any action on the bylaws they currently have before them.

With the consent of The Board DeDe Audet charges LJ Carusone with writing a letter requesting that DONE hold off ratifying any bylaws changes until a comprehensive review of the bylaws is completed by The Bylaws Committee.

Elena Popp, the Lincoln Place situation is very complicated. Amico is holding the tenants hostage in exchange for development concessions.

9. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn carried by acclamation at 9:50pm.