



# Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / [www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org)  
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## Minutes of the May 6, 2019 Joint VNC Board & DFC Focus on Children Meeting

**Voting Members (Present):** Joe Murphy (VNC Discussion Forum Committee Chair), Paul Davis (parent and architect), Jasmine Carey (Worthy Beyond Purpose - Mindfulness Mentoring), Connie Clotworthy (Founder, Director of Worthy Beyond Purpose).

**(Absent):** Mark Washington (LAUSD, Assistant Principal of Operations, Division of Adult & Career Education, Venice Skills Center Service Area), Joelle Dumas (Director of Ecole Claire Fontaine), John Palka (Pastor, Venice Lutheran Church).

**Community Members:** Rachel Bindman (Los Angeles Public Library, Venice Branch Mgr), Regan Kibbee (Co-Moderator of Venice Moms), Juri Koll (Founder/Director of Venice Institute of Contemporary Art (ViCA), Denise McCain (President/Founder of Our Children LA).

**Note:** the minutes below in small blue bold print are a distillation of agenda item discussions and free-form comments from the meeting, and also feature points of discussion introduced by attendees in follow-up correspondence.

**5:30** *Call to Order - Approval of Outstanding Minutes and Agenda* Approved by unanimous vote.

**5:31** *Introductions, Announcements, Public Comment on items not on the agenda*

**5:40** *Consideration and possible adoption of the following motion(s):*

**Whereas**, the Discussion Forum Committee of the VNC exists to “Provide a monthly forum for discussion of long-term matters affecting the Venice Community within the context of the VNC Vision Goals”; &

**Whereas**, the Discussion Forum Committee has resolved to turn its efforts to the “Focus on Children” Vision Goal; &

**Whereas**, the “Focus on Children” Vision Goal establishes that the VNC will “Consider strategies that promote & expand opportunities for children to experience direct meaningful involvement in all aspects of the social and economic and cultural activities of the Venice Community”; &

**Whereas**, quality public education is a vital means by which young people in any community are prepared to join society as informed and insightful full-fledged adult citizens; &

**Whereas**, public education as provided through the Los Angeles Unified School District is plagued by resource scarcity (ie under-funding); then

**Be it therefore resolved (Motion) that:**

**The VNC Board is supportive of the DFC’s efforts to work towards passage of “Measure EE”, a local public-school funding ballot initiative in the June ’19 election for voters inside the boundaries of the LAUSD.**

Measure EE is a property tax that would result in an increase in annual LAUSD funding of approximately \$500 million per year through levying a charge of \$.16/sf of interior space on a property. The measure is backed by Mayor Garcetti, the teacher’s union, and a range of local philanthropists and education (including charter) advocates.

Adopted by unanimous vote.

**6:00** *Initiative Updates & Presentations, Discussion:*

*Due to time constraints, the following discussion was postponed until the June 3, 2019 DFC Focus on Children meeting.*

▪ **Initiative Updates & Presentations**

○ **Paul: Youth Internship Program Initiative Update**

○ **Joe: VNC’s Board of Officers Election**

○ **Joelle Dumas: Venice Chamber of Commerce’s Venice Wave Awards**

○ **Denise McCain: Our Children LA’s WIN APP**

*Denise described Our Children LA’s downloadable Win App which enables users to quickly find the resources they need to help them deal with the mental, physical, and homelessness problems they are experiencing personally or which they encounter in communications with others in the community.*

○ **Sandy Bleifer: Venice Family Clinic’s 2019 Venice Art Walk Studio Tour**

○ **Ron Harris II: SPY’s upcoming events and White Allyship: Walking the Walk**

*It’s YOUR Venice - get involved!*

VNC Joint Board & Discussion Forum Committee Meeting Agenda

1 of 2 - Prepared 5/13/2019



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▪ **Discussion**

- Admin Committee's initiative suggestions based on [Needs Assessment Survey](#) process:

- ✚ Children's Parade

- ✚ Improved Library Access for Young Children Pedestrians

NB: Please let Paul or Joelle or Joe know if you are willing to help implement an initiative (ie: form subcommittee, draft motion, follow-through with VNC process, etc.)

- Future Discussion Subjects

- ✚ Political: developments relating to young people

- ✚ Readings: young people in current literature and culture

NB: Please submit suggestions to Joe 2 weeks before meetings at the latest

**7:00**

***Adjourn. Next meeting will be 5:30pm Monday, June 3, 2019 at the Venice Library***

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