



# Venice Neighborhood Council



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## Minutes of the March 2, 2020 Joint VNC Board & DFC Focus on Children Meeting

**Voting Members (Present):** Joe Murphy (VNC DFC CoChair), Joelle Dumas (VNC DFC CoChair, Director of Ecole Claire Fontaine), Paul Davis (VNC DFC CoChair, parent and architect), Regan Kibbee (Co-moderator of Venice Moms); **(Absent):** Mehrnoosh Mojallali (Architecture/Urban Design), John Palka (Pastor, Venice Lutheran Church), Jasmine Carey (Worthy Beyond Purpose - Mindfulness Mentoring), Mark Washington (LAUSD, Assistant Principal of Operations, Division of Adult & Career Education, Venice Skills Center Service Area).

**Community Members:** Sandy Bleifer (Artist Housing on Metro site) & Aaron Mendelsohn (Developer Representative), Helen Fallon (concern on VHS simming pool), Alex Paradzick & Jonar Cowan (LMU journalism students).

**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.**

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- 5:30**     **Call to Order - Approval of Outstanding Minutes and Agenda**  
                  Postponed to April 6, 2020 meeting for lack of quorum.
- 5:31**     **Introductions, Announcements, Public Comment on items not on the agenda**  
                  Introduction of Alex Paradzick & Jonar Cowan (LMU journalism students fulfilling a class assignment).  
                  Public comment on concern about plans to close VHS swimming pool by Helen Fallon: she will prepare a motion for our consideration at the April 6, 2020 meeting.
- 5:40**     **Consideration and possible adoption of the following motion(s): None**
- 5:40**     **Initiative Updates & Presentations, Discussion**
- 5:40**         **▪ Initiative Updates & Presentations & Discussions**
- Paul Davis: Youth Internship Program  
                  Paul updated the committee on his well-received Board presentation at its Feb 18, 2020 Board meeting.
  - Sandy Bleifer & Aaron Mendelsohn: Presentation/ discussion of Republic Metropolitan (Re/MET) project  
                  Sandy and Aaron outlined the formation of their proposed development of the Metro site following its three-year use for bridge housing, describing their intent to make it community-oriented based on an emphasis on artist housing. The subsequently solicited discussion produced many ideas and concerns from the participants and the likelihood of future such discussions as their proposal evolves.
  - Mehrnoosh Mojallali: Improved Library Access for Young Pedestrians  
                  This item and the balance of the below agenda was postponed to the April 6, 2020 meeting.
- 7:00**         **▪ Discussion Topics/Questions – building on Needs Assessment Survey**
- ✦ What do you think should be the priorities of this committee?
  - ✦ Homelessness is a major and central issue in our community. Is there something constructive that this committee is uniquely-positioned to do?
  - ✦ The Venice Neighborhood Council Bylaws enable young adults to become elected members of its Board of Officers and voting members/ chairs of its various committees – and to create new committees – and to be otherwise involved in its various functions and government-related activities. To date, very little has been done to encourage such involvement. Is this something this committee is uniquely-positioned to do?
  - ✦ Worthy Beyond Purpose is dedicated to providing children with mindfulness experiences. Should we take time to explore in greater depth what this entails and whether this committee is uniquely-positioned to, in a constructive manner, enable broader community use of this model?
- 7:00**         **▪ Contribution of Topics/Questions &/or Motions for next meeting agenda**
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- 7:00**     **Adjourn. Next meeting will be 5:30pm Monday, April 6, 2020 at the Venice Library**
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