



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / www.VeniceNC.org

Email: info@VeniceNC.org Phone: 310-421-8627

JOINT MEETING OF the Rules and Selections Committee & Venice Neighborhood Council Board **Agenda**

Meeting Date: Monday March 9, 2020

Meeting Time: 4:30 PM- 7:00 PM

Meeting Location: Extra Space Storage

Contact: john.reed@venicenc.org

1. 4:30 Call to Order and Roll Call

John Reed (Chair)			
George Francisco			
Jim Murez			
Ilana Marosi			
Elizabeth Wright			
Hugh Harrison		Ira Koslow (ex-officio)	

2. 4:32 Approve Minutes of last meeting as presented or amended

3. 4:35 ANNOUNCEMENTS

4. 4: 40 PUBLIC COMMENT – 1 minute on non-agenized items related to Rules and Selections Committee only

5. Chair Report -None

6. Old Business- item 7.a ii

7. 5:45 Item for Discussion and Possible Action – Motion

7.a Change to Bylaws- VNC BYLAWS REVISIONS & CHANGES

(i) By Laws Change to have the VNC Board elect an “Election Officer” which cannot be the parliamentarian, whose sole responsibility and function will be to conduct and oversee future Venice Neighborhood Council elections in cooperation with the City of Los Angeles and that this position be appointed by a majority of board members after advertising to the community this new position that would seek resumes and the completion of a formal application.

WHEREAS, there is a need to streamline and reform the Venice Neighborhood Council election process that creates greater transparency, accountability and a more democratic process that is reliable and objective, And WHEREAS, the current election process is flawed, unaccountable and lacks full disclosure as witnessed with the lack of a formal working committee, And WHEREAS, the need to make the necessary changes and reforms before the next Venice Neighborhood Council elections scheduled for June of 2021, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Venice Neighborhood Council create the position of Election Officer whose only responsibility and function will be to conduct and oversee future Venice Neighborhood Council elections in cooperation with the City of Los Angeles and that this position be appointed by a majority of board members after

advertising to the community this new position that would seek resumes and the completion of a formal application, And BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Election Officer provide the appearance of independence and objectivity and hold no other position within the Venice Neighborhood Council, elected or appointed by the President, And BE FURTHER RESOLVED that this position be filled by the Venice Neighborhood Council no later than six months before the next scheduled election of the Venice Neighborhood Council.

(ii) By Laws Change to have Outreach Chair be responsible for appointing the Election Chair and that the Committee be composed of at least five (5) stakeholders moving forward (including the Chair). That the Elections Committee comprise a membership of at least five (5) and a quorum of three (3) since this year's Elections Committee had just two (2) members and for the most part was run by one person, the Chair.

WHEREAS, the Elections Committee Chair is a direct appointment of the President with no input from any standing committee, and

WHEREAS, the Outreach Committee is the appropriate committee of responsibility for this outreach function,

MOTION: the Outreach Chair be responsible for appointing the Election Chair and that the Committee be composed of at least five (5) stakeholders moving forward (including the Chair).

The Elections Committee be a subset of the standing Outreach Committee and that the Outreach Chair appoint the Elections Chair moving forward.

- That the Elections Committee comprise a membership of at least five (5) and a quorum of three (3) since this year's Elections Committee had just two (2) members and for the most part was run by one person, the Chair.*

- That Venice Stakeholder's cast thirteen (13) or less votes for the position of Community Officer, and end this current model which is in violation of one-man, one-vote when someone can be elected with only 50 votes when over 1700 actually voted.*

(iii) By Laws Change requiring all agenda requested must be heard at ADCOM before the president can remove any agenda request from the agenda.

(iv) By Laws Change permitting committee chairs to send motions to the city of los angles various departments after the motions have been voted on by the full VNC board when the president is unable to complete the task within 30 days. All board recommendations must be sent by the VNC Board President no later than 1 month after the board meeting at which said recommendations were made. If VNC board president is unable to complete said task, then the task will fall to the VNC assistant who will work with committee chairs to complete and send letters.

(v) By Laws Change laws to place authority to appoint the Chairs and Members of Standing Committees and Ad Hoc Committees, with the exception of the Neighborhood Committee's chair and members, and the exception of the Chair of the Land Use and Planning Committee, with the members of the Board of Officers of the Neighborhood Council. The appointment process for the Neighborhood Committee's chair and members, and the Chair of the Land Use and Planning Committee, shall remain as currently outlined in the By-Laws.

(vi) By Laws Change ARTICLE V: GOVERNING BOARD Section 4: Terms & Limits The current language reads: "There are no limits to the number of terms that a Board Officer may serve." Proposed Revision: "Board Officers shall be limited to two (2), consecutive terms of office for any single office."

(vii) By Laws Change ARTICLE X - ELECTIONS Current language reads: "Any stakeholder who is sixteen (16) years or older, or a junior or senior in high school, may vote." Proposed Revision: "All stakeholders who are eighteen (18) years or older may vote."

(viii) By Laws Change ARTICLE XII: Parliamentary Authority Current language: "An unbiased Parliamentarian may be appointed by the President to assist in the resolution of parliamentary issues." Proposed Revision: "A Parliamentarian shall be appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the board for a term concurrent with the elected Board Members. The Parliamentarian shall serve at the pleasure of the President and can be removed at anytime."

- 1) Article X: Elections Section 1: Administration of Election Current Language: "The VNC's election will be conducted pursuant to any and all City ordinances, policies and procedures pertaining to Neighborhood Council Elections." Proposed Added Language: The President shall appoint an Elections Officer to manage and oversee the election. The Elections Officer will be appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Board of Officers. The Elections Officer will hold no other office or presidential appointment to ensure the integrity of the elections process. The Elections Officer shall appoint a committee of at least five (5) members (including the Elections Officer) with the Elections Officer serving as chair. The committee will include at least one (1) member of the OUTREACH Committee and it will be the duty of the Committee to meet at least three (3) times in public ninety (90) days prior any election of officers for the next term of office."

(ix) And VNC Vision Goals to include;
... to promote a more proactive, collaborative vision for VNC Committees to include in their deliberations as they formulate recommendations for Board consideration, the intent [being] to create a working framework of integrated strategies capable of achieving, over time, broader consensus and increased ... [Focus on Children, Participation, Walkability, Diversity, Creativity, Collaboration, Brainstorming]

(x) By Laws Change to introduce staggered 4-year Board of Officer and LUPC Member terms of office

ARTICLE V: GOVERNING BOARD

Section 4: Terms and Term Limits

At the upcoming 2021 election, the terms of office shall be four (4) years for the seven (7) Community Officer candidates receiving the highest votes and for the following Executive Officer

candidates: President, Secretary, Communications Officer, and Land Use and Planning Committee Chair and (2) years for the remaining candidates. At each subsequent election, the terms of office shall be four (4) years.

Section 6: Vacancies

Vacant Board seats shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining elected Officers. Officers selected in this manner shall serve as Board Officers until the election following the term of the vacated position.

ARTICLE VI: OFFICERS

Section 4: Officer Terms A Board Officer's term shall be for the duration of two (2) or four (4) years or until a successor is elected or appointed.

ARTICLE X: ELECTIONS

Section 2: Governing Board Structure and Voting

4C. The Community Officer candidates with the highest vote totals and the Community Interest Community Officer with the highest vote total shall be elected. EXCEPT, if there is no community interest candidate, the Community Officer candidate with the next highest vote total shall be elected to the Community Interest Community Officer position.

ARTICLE VII: COMMITTEES AND THEIR DUTIES

F. Land Use and Planning Committee

Within thirty (30) days after the upcoming 2018 Board of Officers election and within thirty (30) days after beginning their term, the Board shall hold a Board of Officers meeting to select eight (8) LUPC members from a list of candidates who have formally communicated to the Board their desire to serve on the Land Use and Planning Committee. The eight (8) candidates with the highest vote totals shall be selected. Of these, the four (4) candidates with the highest vote totals shall serve terms of four (4) years and the other four (4) candidates shall serve terms of two (2) years as members of the Land Use and Planning Committee.

Upon Board of Officers elections subsequent to the 2018 election and within thirty (30) days after beginning their term, the Board shall hold a Board of Officers meeting to select four (4) LUPC members from a list of candidates who have formally communicated to the Board their desire to serve on the Land Use and Planning Committee. The four (4) candidates with the highest vote total shall be selected and shall serve terms of four (4) years as members of the Land Use and Planning Committee.

(xi) Amend the bylaws as follows;

ARTICLE V: GOVERNING BOARD Section 4: Terms & Limits The current language reads: "There are no limits to the number of terms that a Board Officer may serve." Proposed Revision: "Board Officers shall be limited to two (2), consecutive terms of office for any single office."

ARTICLE X - ELECTIONS Current language reads: "Any stakeholder who is sixteen (16) years or older, or a junior or senior in high school, may vote." Proposed Revision: "All stakeholders who are eighteen (18) years or older may vote."

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Article X: Elections Section 1: Administration of Election Current Language: \"The VNC's election will be conducted pursuant to any and all City ordinances, policies and procedures pertaining to Neighborhood Council Elections.\" Proposed Added Language: The President shall appoint an Elections Officer to manage and oversee the election. The Elections Officer will be appointed by the President with the advice and consent of the Board of Officers. The Elections Officer will hold no other office or presidential appointment to ensure the integrity of the elections process. The Elections Officer shall appoint a committee of at least five (5) members (including the Elections Officer) with the Elections Officer serving as chair. The committee will include at least one (1) member of the OUTREACH Committee and it will be the duty of the Committee to meet at least three (3) times in public ninety (90) days prior any election of officers for the next term of office.\"

8. COMMITTEE COMMENTS –

9. ADJOURN

PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS: The public is requested to fill out a “Speaker Card” to address the Rules and Selection Committee on any agenda item before the [committee] takes an action on an item. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Rules and Selection Committee jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Rules and Selection Committee is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Rules and Selection Committee meeting. Public comment is limited to 1 minute per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer.

POSTING: In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board members in advance of a meeting may be viewed at Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd; Venice Public Library, 501 S. Venice Blvd; and at our website by clicking on the following link: www.venicenc.org, or at the scheduled meeting. You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City’s Early Notification System at <http://www.lacity.org/government/Subscriptions/NeighborhoodCouncils/index.htm>. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact john.reed@venicenc.org.

RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS: For information on the VNC’s process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the VNC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and our website www.venicenc.org.

DISABILITY POLICY: The Venice Neighborhood Council complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and does not discriminate on the basis of any disability. 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.