



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / www.VeniceNC.org
Email: info@VeniceNC.org Phone: 310-421-8627



Board of Officers Meeting Minutes Westminster Elementary School (Auditorium) 1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd, Venice, 90291 **Tuesday, February 18th, 2014 at 7:00 PM**

BOARD MEETINGS: The Venice Neighborhood Council holds its regular meetings on the third Tuesday of the month and may also call any additional required special meetings in accordance with its Bylaws and the Brown Act. All are welcome to attend.

TRANSLATION Services: Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de notificar a la oficina 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Si necesita asistencia con esta notificación, por favor llame a nuestra oficina 213.473.5391.

POSTING: *In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5 the agenda and non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board members in advance of regular and special meetings may be viewed at Groundworks Coffee (671 Rose Ave.), Penmar Park (1341 Lake St), Beyond Baroque (681 Venice Blvd), the Venice Library (501 S. Venice Blvd), Oakwood Recreation Center (767 California St.), The Venice Ale House (425 Ocean Front Walk), and the VNC website (<http://www.venicenc.org>), or at the scheduled meeting. For a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact the VNC secretary at secretary@venicenc.org.*

PUBLIC COMMENT: The public is requested to fill out a "**Speaker Card**" to address the Board on any Old or New Business item on the agenda and the Treasurer's Report. Comments from the public on these agenda items will be heard only when that item is being considered. Comments from the public on other agenda matters or on matters not appearing on the agenda but within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to two (2) minutes per speaker, unless modified by the presiding officer of the Board. No new speaker cards will be accepted once Public Comment has begun.

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.

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call (7:00PM – 5 minutes)**

Meeting called to order in memory of Joe Guessa, step father of Will Schubert;
Get well wishes for LUPC member Sarah Dennison

PRESENT: HelenS, LindaL, MarcS, HughH, JakeK (arr. 7:50), MattK (arr. 7:40, dep. 10:30), ThomasE (dep. 10:30), IraK (dep. 10:30), ScotK, AbigailM, EduardoM, ErinSW, MarisaS, MaxS, CynthiaR (dep. 10:30), SevanG, TommyW (dep. 10:30), SylviaA, BudJ
ABSENT: KrisV, OrenK

2. **Pledge Of Allegiance (7:05PM -- 5 minutes)**

3. **Approval of the Agenda (7:10PM – 3 minutes)**

ACTION:ESW/IK 19-0-0

4. **Declaration of Ex Parte Communications (7:13PM -- 2 minutes)** All Board members shall declare any ex parte communications relating to items on the meeting's agenda

Ira, Abigail, Erin, Marc (telephone), Helen, Marisa, and Tom individually met with hotel developer rep.

5. **Approval of Outstanding Board minutes (7:15PM – 5 minutes)**

<http://www.venicenc.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/140121BoardMinutes.pdf>

ACTION:IK/EM 19-0-0

6. **President's Report (7:20PM -- 5 minutes)** (Linda Lucks president@venicenc.org)

City Attorney Mike Feuer will be Special Guest at the March 18 VNC Meeting
Scheduling of a Special Interim Board Meeting- **Feb. 27**

Mayor's Town Hall -- Budget 101- Feb. 26, 6 p.m. at Mar Vista Recreation Center

3 recent CPRA requests – 2 have been responded to



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / www.VeniceNC.org
Email: info@VeniceNC.org Phone: 310-421-8627



7. **Public Safety - LAPD Report (7:25 -- 10 minutes):** Senior Lead Officers Peggy Thusing (25120@lapd.lacity.org), Kristan Delatori (32914@lapd.lacity.org), Gregg Jacobus, **SLO Thusing: Crime stats for whole PacDiv. 1/19-2/15, 0 homicides, 5 rapes, 16 robberies, 14 AA,...161 thefts, Agg assaults are down. Lock-up property. Lock cars.**

35162@lapd.lacity.org. Lt. Steve Lurie, OFW Beach Detail Supervisor. *Includes a monthly Venice crime report and updates on law enforcement issues in Venice.*

8. **Announcements & Public Comment on items not on the Agenda (7:35PM --10 minutes)**

[5 speakers, no more than 1 minute per person – no Board member announcements permitted]

Public Comment: Betsy Butler – running for state senate, Nancy Feinberg – 8th Annual BBQ on 8/2, Rob Dew – OV Film Series 2/19 at Electric Lodge, Gloria Gray – candidate for 62nd Assembly District, Jana Cruder – introduces herself, is applying for CIP, Millie Mims – space 205 feeding people every night, Eric Schiff – SPY (Safe Place for Youth - 7th and Westminster) for homeless youth, Jed Pauker –opinion on LUPC function.

9. **Scheduled Announcements and Presentations (7:45PM – 35 minutes)**

[No discussion or Public Comment]

- A **Government Reports (10 minutes)** (Representatives have standing place on the agenda, but are not always available to attend)

- **City Councilmember Mike Bonin**, Cecilia Castillo, Field Deputy, Cecilia.Castillo@lacity.org (310-568-8772); (Cecilia.castillo@lacity.org); Mark Grant (Mark.Grant@lacity.org) **Cecilia Castillo and Tricia Keane (CD 11 planning) – making progress on Venice Beach: 17th Ave restroom repaired, Horizon is next (starting Fri.). Sand on bike path: in 2 weeks will start cleaning up. Will be repairing irrigation on grassy knolls. Getting stencils on OFW saying “walk your bike”. Access 11 event on 23rd in Brentwood 10-noon.**
- **LA Parks & Recreation-Venice Boardwalk**, Juan Benitez (juan.benitez@lacity.org)
- **LA County Department of Beaches & Harbors: OFW Safety**, John Kelly 310-305-9532
- **Congressman Henry Waxman**, Representative Lisa.Pinto; Lisa.Pinto@housemail.gov
- **State Senator Ted Lieu**, Representative, Veronica Zendejas Veronica.Zendejas@sen.ca.gov 310-318-6994
- **State Assemblyperson Steve Bradford** 310.412.6400
- **LA County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky**, Maria Chong Castillo mCCastillo@bos.lacounty.gov, 213-974-3333
- **Mayor Eric Garcetti**, Daniel Tamm, Westside Deputy (Daniel.Tamm@Lacity.org) 213-978-0836 **Daniel Tamm announces 2/26 budget event (see VeniceNC.org calendar for details).**
- **Venice Abbot Kinney Memorial Branch Library**, Rachel Bindman, Librarian (rbindman@lapl.org) **Announces upcoming programs, including quarterly booksale (needs volunteers).**

- B **VNC Monthly Committee Report: Elections Committee (15 minutes)**

[A monthly report on one of the VNC's standing or Ad Hoc committees.] This month's report includes an election update from Alisa Smith, our Independent Election Administrator

- C **Community Improvement Project Presentation (5 minutes)**

Presentation of recently completed saltbush plantings by the Venice Canals Association. Applications for 2014-15 projects available <http://www.venicenc.org/wp->



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / www.VeniceNC.org
Email: info@VeniceNC.org Phone: 310-421-8627



[content/uploads/2014/01/COMMUNITY-IMPROVEMENT-PROJECT-APP.pdf](#)

D **Google Expansion Plans (5 minutes)** -- (Tom Williams, Google Venice)
Google will report on its planned expansion to use the building that formerly housed Digital Domain at 320 Hampton Avenue and that they are proposing a community meeting to present the project in detail and gather comments. There will be **NO Q & A** at tonight's meeting. **Meeting 3/1 3 pm at Google (340 Main) for public comment or hampton320@google.com. Mostly interior remodel. Preserving Gehry fish. LEED platinum.**

10. Consent Calendar (8:20PM -- 5 minutes)
[All agenda items on the Consent Calendar will pass when the Consent Calendar is approved. No discussion or Public Comment is allowed on any item. Items may be removed by any board member or stakeholder. Removed items will go to the end of the agenda and be treated as regular agenda items with discussion and public comment.]

A **Support and Enforcement of bikes on Ocean Front Walk** Thomas Elliott
tom@venicealehouse.com
MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council supports police education and enforcement of no riding of bicycles on Ocean Front Walk during daylight hours, as it is dangerous to pedestrians.

B **Sponsorship Of NASA Astronaut Event at Westminster School** (Linda Lucks, President@Venicenc.org)
MOTION: The VNC shall sponsor the NASA Astronauts Visit to Westminster School on Feb. 22, 2-6 p.m; <http://www.nasa.gov/destinationstation>.

ACTION: Consent Calendar: IraK/CynthiaR 19-0-0

11. Old Business (8:25PM -- 0 minutes) *[Discussion and possible action]*

12. Treasurers Report (8:25PM -- 5 minutes); (Hugh Harrison, Treasurer@Venicenc.org)
[Discussion and possible action] **[EXHIBIT]**

A **MOTION:** The VNC Board approves the attached report on expenditures for the period December 22, 2013, through January 21, 2014, and the monthly EmpowerLA reconciliation report.

ACTION: HH/SG 18-0-1

B **MOTION:** The Venice Neighborhood Council requests cash to be allocated to its NC checking account for February 22 through March 21, 2014 in the following amounts:

<u>VNC Budget Item</u>	<u>DONE</u>	<u>Vendor (if Known)</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Office Supplies/Copies	OFF	Office Depot	\$ 125.00
Refreshments	EVE	Smart & Final	\$ 50.00
Web Site/E-Mail	WEB	I Power/Constant Contact	\$ 200.00
Neighborhood CIPS	CIP		
Venice Canal Pathway			\$ 1,500.00
Elections	ELE		



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / www.VeniceNC.org
Email: info@VeniceNC.org Phone: 310-421-8627



Recruitment events	\$ 400.00
Printing election outreach	\$ 1,000.00
Total	\$ 3,275.00

ACTION: HH/EM 19-0-0

13. LUPC (8:30 PM -- 135 minutes) (Jake Kaufman on behalf of LUPC chair-lupc@venicenc.org)

A 758 Sunset Avenue (30 minutes)

Description: Small Lot Subdivision with 3 homes and 6 car parking.

Planning Cases: ZA-2013-1085-CDP-MEL-ZAA; ENV-2013-1084-EAF; AA-2013-1086-PMLA-SL

Public comment:

For: Sue Kaplan, Winola Smith, Gatain Valentine, Gogi Overhoff, Laddie Williams, Ivonne Guzman, Krista Schwimmer.

MOTION: While we recognize City Planning has approved projects under the SLSO (Small Lot Subdivision Ordinance), the Venice Neighborhood Council feels that the Venice Coastal Zone Specific Plan should trump or take precedent (meaning 2 homes or 3 with 1 being a replacement affordable).

Further, we request that no variance, exceptions or adjustments be accepted on completely new developments.

Finally, we do not feel that this project meets the unique character intent of the Venice Specific Plan because:

- 1) 70% homes in surrounding 4 blocks are single story and 22% are 2 story and less than 7% are similar in size;
- 2) this project decreases the density (%) of affordable units in the area.
- 3) the lot coverage is beyond that which Venice would like to see.
- 4) this level of density as specified by the Venice Specific Plan shall require providing guest parking.

LUPC Motion made by Jake Kaufman, seconded by Jim Murez; Approved on 2/5/14 4-0-2

Staff Report:

<http://www.cityhood.org/ReportCaseActivityDetail.cncx?CID=31995&UGP=Anonymous>

ACTION: JK/MarSol 19-0-0

MOTION TO RECONSIDER (to allow architect to speak – motion called early so he wasn't present when first called): SG/SK Passes 11-2-1

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mark Kleiman (against), Jim Murez (for)

REHEAR MOTION: approved as presented (project declined) 14-0-0

B 1033 Abbot Kinney: Hotel (105 minutes)

Description: Mixed Use Hotel Project

Cases: ENV-2012-3355-EAF; DIR-2012-306-VSO-MEL

LindaL and SylviaA recused themselves and left the room.

MOTION: Whereas, there has been considerable input and testimony from the community and residents of the immediate neighborhood between August 2012 and December 2013 expressing that any hotel project proposed for this site should fully comply with the Venice Coastal Zone Specific Plan (VCZSP) with no modifications or exceptions permitted.

Whereas, with any large scale development project it is only reasonable to expect that there will always be a difference of opinion as to the appropriateness of a proposed use and or building



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / www.VeniceNC.org
Email: info@VeniceNC.org Phone: 310-421-8627



type for a specific site.

Whereas, the applicant has made revisions to the project design 4 times decreasing the scale and mass of the proposed building to address concerns and issues raised during this 17 month community outreach phase.

Whereas, after 6 LUPC meetings, review of testimony from both supporters and opponents of the project, the applicant proposes to lower the building height to fully comply with Section 10F3(a) of the VCZSP. The project architect shall provide revised building elevations to the VNC which demonstrate that the project fully complies with a 30 foot flat roof height and/or 35 feet varied roof line and all other design requirements of the VCZSP.

Whereas, the VCZSP and Venice LUP contain no definitions for the following words and or phrases; Scale, Character and Mass, compatible in character, compatible in scale and character with the existing neighborhood.

Whereas, Section 3F and 8C of the VCZSP read as follows:

VCZSP Section 3 PURPOSES. The purposes of this Specific Plan are as follows:

Section F. To regulate all development, including use, height, density, setback, buffer zone and other factors in order that it be compatible in character with the existing community and to provide for the consideration of aesthetics and scenic preservation and enhancement, and to protect environmentally sensitive areas.

Section 8 C. FINDINGS. In granting a Project Permit Compliance Review in the Venice Coastal Zone, the Approving Authority shall make each of the findings in Section 11.5.7 and the following findings:

1. That the Venice Coastal Development Project is compatible in scale and character with the existing neighborhood, and that the Venice Coastal Development Project would not be materially detrimental to adjoining lots or the immediate neighborhood;

Whereas, Sections 3F and 8C of the VCZSP are subjective and open to interpretation regarding said compliance and compatibility absent definitions of the phrases; Scale, Character and Mass: compatible in character, compatible in scale and character with the existing neighborhood.

Therefore, the Venice Neighborhood Council recommends approval of the project based upon compliance with the VCZSP, review of the architectural drawings, review of correspondence and testimony from the applicant, applicants representative, architect, supporters of the project and opponents of the project and moves that the VNC adopt the following mandatory findings in order to support a fully compliant VCZSP mixed use project:

The design of the proposed building with a combination of 1, 2 and 3 stories blends into the fabric of the neighborhood by incorporating portions of the existing structures along Abbot Kinney maintaining the existing character of the street by stepping back the building at various locations. Abbot Kinney Boulevard has been undergoing numerous renovations of older buildings which have been very sensitive to the character of the street. The proposed project will continue an aesthetically diverse frontage along Abbot Kinney Boulevard. The architectural style of the proposed mixed use building and materials selected is both sensitive and respectful of the current architecture blending in rather than creating a modern architectural statement. As designed the project is compatible in scale and character with the existing neighborhood and the project would not be materially detrimental to adjoining lots or the immediate neighborhood.

The Venice Neighborhood Council further recommends the following conditions be imposed on the project:

1) The project shall fully comply with all sections of the VCZSP regulating design including but not limited to Height, Access, FAR, Parking, Landscaping, and Lighting.



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / www.VeniceNC.org
Email: info@VeniceNC.org Phone: 310-421-8627



2) That no loading or unloading of deliveries shall be permitted along Abbot Kinney Blvd, Electric Avenue and Westminster Street.

3) That loading and unloading of all deliveries and trash pick up shall be limited to a 60 foot yellow curb loading zone on Broadway Avenue. Noise (Receiving, Trash, Storage Areas). Any activities associated with areas devoted to trash compacting, loading and unloading, receiving, and the "tote and bale" enclosure, shall be limited as follows: Monday through Friday, 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM; Saturday, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM; except as follows: There should be no deliveries 45 minutes prior to Westminster school commencing and 15 minutes after school commencement time and no deliveries 1 hour after Westminster school ends. Delivery and trash pickup times should be limited based upon peak traffic hours and Westminster school hours. No deliveries, receiving, trash, or storage area use shall be allowed on Sunday or legal holidays.

4) That passenger loading shall be limited to 5 timed passenger loading spaces along Abbot Kinney Blvd. which shall be used by the valet. No other street parking shall be used by the valet at any time.

5) There shall be one valet operator responsible for all uses on site that will be accountable for enforcement.

6) Required parking shall be satisfied with automobile parking only and all bicycle parking shall be in addition to the minimum number of parking spaces required by the VCZSP. The applicant has agreed that no grandfather parking rights or credits shall be applied to any parking calculation for the project.

- a) All restaurants, hotel, retail, spa, and office employees that drive to work shall park on site and free of charge during their employment shift hours.

- b) All hotel guests that arrive to the hotel by automobile shall park free of charge during their stay at the hotel

- c) All restaurant and spa patrons shall receive a free 90 minute parking validation.

- 7) Prior to the commencement of construction the applicant shall provide documentation that 56 temporary parking spaces are available for the restaurant and office uses should these businesses remain open during construction.

8) Prior to construction the applicant shall provide documentation that Construction Related Parking is being provided as follows: Off-street parking shall be provided for all construction related employees generated by the proposed project. No employees or subcontractor shall be allowed to park on the surrounding residential streets for the duration of all construction activities. There shall be no staging or parking of construction vehicles, including vehicles to transport workers on any residential street in the immediate area. All construction vehicles shall be stored either on site unless returned to their owners base of operations or in a designated parking area provided by the applicant.

9) Should this project be phased as currently proposed by the applicant, a separate plan approval shall be required filed no less than 12 months prior to the issuance of the second building permit which shall address the following:

- Compliance with all existing conditions of approval

- Review of all existing conditions of approval to determine if any conditions should be modified for the second phase of the project

- Review of the cumulative effect of any project not considered in the environmental review for this planning application raising a substantial issue regarding the 2nd phase of the project.

- Changes required to the project design based upon the enactment of new zoning or building codes.



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / www.VeniceNC.org
Email: info@VeniceNC.org Phone: 310-421-8627



LUPC Motion made by John Reed, Seconded by Mia Herron Approved on 1/15/2014 6-1-1

Background Information:

<http://www.cityhood.org/ReportCaseActivityDetail.cncx?CID=30818&UGP=Anonymous>

PUBLIC COMMENT:

In favor of hotel: Robin Murez (two ceded their time to her), Tony Bill, Jack Hoffman, Peter Cartmill, Steven Lake, Melanie Murez, Jim Murez, Maggie Romero speaking for Joe Miller, Elise Gispan, Brad Johnson, Corbin Smith, Christian Weber, Luke Jones, Barton Sidles, Stephen Smith, Scott Mayers (and Kanae Koh ceded her time to him), Carl Lambert, Jaymie Gross, Jennifer Kurtley, Ravi Guha, Rabbi Lori Shapiro, Joel Shapiro, Rachel McDonald, David Frison.

General comment: Daryl Barnett, Scott Boughton, Robin Rudisill, Charlotte.

Against hotel: Marta Evry (15+ mins), Brian Finney (Fred Crostic cedes time to Brian), David Ewing, Carolyn Rios, Tibby Rothman, Sue Kaplan (Jacky Lavin cedes time to Sue), David Garcia, Elaine Spierer, Gogi Overhoff, Jana Cruder, Dr. Joel Isaacs, Nick Mele, Mark Kleiman (Susan Rennie cedes time to Mark), Denise Riede.

In lieu of speaking: 36 against, 5 for.

ACTION: JK/HS Passed 9-7-1

14. VNC Announcements (10:45PM -- 10 Minutes)

- **Vice President** Marc Saltzberg (Vicepresident@Venicenc.org)
- **Westside Regional Alliance of Neighborhood Councils-** Mike Newhouse, WRAC President, Marc Saltzberg, VNC Representatives. Chair@westsidecouncils.org,
- **Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC)** Ivan Spiegel (parliamentarian@venicenc.org)
- **Venice Chamber Of Commerce:** Erin-Sullivan Ward (erin.ward@venicenc.org)
- **LADWP Oversight Committee** DeDe Audet daudet@ca.rr.com

15. Announcements & Public Comment on items not on the Agenda (10:55PM -- 10 minutes)

[no more than 1 minute per person – no Board member announcements permitted]

Public Comment: None.

16. Board Member Comments on subject matters within the VNC jurisdiction

(11:05PM -- 5 minutes, no more than 1 minute per person)

17. Adjourn (approx. 11:10PM) **Motion to adjourn: SG/SA, unanimous.**

List of Venice Neighborhood Council Committees & Chairs – Volunteers Welcome

Administrative	Linda Lucks	Santa Monica Airport	Abigail Myers, Laura Silagi
Neighborhood	Marc Saltzberg	Visitor Impact	Joseph Shields, Clabe Hartley
Outreach	Matt Kline	Ocean Front Walk	Tom Elliot,
Budget	Hugh Harrison	Public Safety	Sevan Gerard, Mark Kleiman
Land Use and Planning	Jake Kaufman	Environment	Erin Sullivan Ward, Abigail Myers
Education	Bud Jacobs	Arts	Cynthia Rogers, Eduardo Manilla
Rules & Election	Ira Koslow	2013-2014 Elections	Elizabeth Wright, Ivan Spiegel
Communications	Helen Stotler	Parking and Transportation	Erin McMorrow, Abigail Myers