



Venice Neighborhood Council

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Verdant Venice Committee Minutes of Sept 6, 2019 Meeting The Rose 220 Rose Ave, Venice CA 90291

1. Meeting was called to order at 9:15am. Present were Noël Johnston, Isabelle Duvivier, Melissa Diner
2. The agenda was approved as presented. (MD, ID. 3-0))
3. There were no Announcements
4. There was no Public Comment
5. Chair report
 - a. Local tree canopy fell 14 to 55% in the period between 2000-2009, primarily due to mansionization.
 - b. DUDEK issued a report in 2018 on the LA urban tree policy, finding that the City scored a 2 out of a potential 109 points in its urban forestry sustainability practices.
 - c. The Bureau of Street Services will be doing a “tree planting blitz” throughout the City within the next 15 months.
6. Item for Discussion or Possible Action – Motion. Passed 3-0-0. (MD, ID.)
 - a. Whereas Mayor Garcetti has recently appointed Rachel Malarich as the City’s first forest officer (aka: Tree Tzar) and; Whereas she will be charged with “spearheading the development of a citywide Urban Forest Management Plan” within the Board of Public Works as part of the City’s Green New Deal and; Whereas the City is planning an inventory of all street trees in Los Angeles, therefore, the Verdant Venice Committee recommends that the VNC Board send a letter to Mayor Eric Garcetti, Councilman Bonin, the Department of Public Works, Rachel Malarich, Timothy Tyson and Adel Hagekhalil suggesting that any inventory of Los Angeles street trees include possible sites for the planting of new trees, including tree locations that do not currently meet minimum planting guidelines but, if altered, could.
7. There was no Old Business.
8. New Business and Comments:
 - a. Consider inviting a person from the Pacific Palisades tree planning group to a future meeting.
 - b. Consider inviting the LUPC chair to a meeting or having a “co-meeting” with LUPC.
 - c. Inquire about the possibility of getting variances for certain parkway and median tree planting locations.
9. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11am.