



# Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / [www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org)

Email: [info@VeniceNC.org](mailto:info@VeniceNC.org) Phone: 310-421-8627

## Venice Arbor Committee (VArb) Meeting Agenda

**Time: November 19, 2021 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)**

**Join Zoom Meeting:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81872718813>

**Meeting ID: 818 7271 8813**

**Phone: 669 900 9128**

**Contact: [isabelle@idarchitect.com](mailto:isabelle@idarchitect.com), [sarahwauters123@gmail.com](mailto:sarahwauters123@gmail.com)**

### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

<b>Isabelle Duvivier, Co-Chair (ID)</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Sarah Wauters, Co-Chair (SW)</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Mark Ryavec</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Noel Johnston</b>	<b>X</b>		
<b>Barry Campion</b>	<b>X</b>		
		<b>Jim Murez (ex-officio)</b>	

2. **Approved Agenda. Isabelle Duvivier moved to approve, Noel Johnston seconded.**
3. **Approved Minutes from prior meeting, October 22, 2021. Sarah Wauters moved to approve, Barry Campion seconded.**
4. **Chair Report – Isabelle Duvivier reported on** Community Forest Advisory Committee (CFAC), Build Around Trees activities. Looking for Krekorian to get all departments to comply with the biodiversity ordinance. CFAC met with the Planning Department about the requirement that 1 tree is planted for every 4 units. Rachel Malevich gave a report and it appears that there is no clear friend to trees in any of the council district offices. Isabelle is looking at projects that come before LUPC to help with the location of trees. In many cases they are putting them on the roof or over the parking structure, which is not going to grow sufficiently large trees. CFAC will try to get the ordinance changed so that trees can only be planted in the ground. Planning department is looking at making the planter boxes 4' or greater. Most 3' x 5' LID boxes (low impact development) can only collect about ¼" of rain. There is a need to get to all the neighborhood councils and elevate the biodiversity mission along the Expo line. This means there is a need to get those of us interested in this area to go to other Neighborhood Council meetings and committees. During the ensuing discussion, many members and public had suggestions. One member of the public asked: Why don't we draft a motion and take it to WRAC regarding the present practice of planting trees on the roof or in boxes to fulfill the tree requirements for new buildings? IS states that a lawyer is drafting a motion.
5. **Chair Report - SW on non-agenda items – No items to report.**
6. **VVG Report –** Watering has proceeded. Announced that Agroperm removal last day would be the following Saturday.
7. **PUBLIC COMMENT –** 3 minutes on non-agendized items. Robin Murez asked everyone to oppose the building of the "monster" on December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021.



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## 8. Items for Discussion, Action, and Possible Motion

### NEW BUSINESS

- a. Venice Arbor Group update on Venice Blvd tree care and planting, mulching and irrigation – Request for volunteers - Noel gave us report on progress and plans for mulching and planting.
- b. Tree well expansion locations and funding – Mark R. – 1.2 billion dollars to replace 100s miles of sidewalks – the city is willing to provide / reconfigure the tree wells. They did so on Windward and by the US post office. Mark suggested that we should bring a list to the city. These locations were mentioned: Venice Way, Grand Ave., Main Street across from the dog park, east side of the street. ID wants the tree wells to be that are empty to be expanded so that a better tree could be planted. Is it cheaper if we do the cutting and planting ourselves? When members / public look for empty tree wells to put on the list with the city, look for:
  - i. Empty trees wells, or obviously filled in ones (sometimes have concrete)
  - ii. Remaining sidewalk needs to be a minimum of 3' wide.
  - iii. High Traffic areas – important to the city
  - iv. Minimum total sidewalk of 8'
  - v. This requires us to see if Stephen Dupre will approve a 3' sidewalk.
- c. Penmar golf course – presentation and update – Barry.
  - i. Penmar goal is to unify the different groups involved.
  - ii. To look at the Westwood greenway that was created near the train station
  - iii. Introduce bioswale to discourage camping and design to have rock in the bioswales.
  - iv. Robin suggests going to Joe Halper, of RAP because they have more autonomy. Go to top.
  - v. Public Works still holds the land
  - vi. Boise v. Martin camping case still applies
  - vii. EVNA Having a meeting on Dec 16th
- d. Adoption of CFAC tree edits to the UNNC Koretz motion regarding R-1 rezoning per SB9. – Isabelle Duvivier reported on this.

### OLD BUSINESS

- e. Lincoln Blvd Master Plan and Community Plan including whole food update –Michael/Sarah
  - i. In touch with executives at Whole Foods through Michael McGuffin – Southern Pacific Region for engagement and giving
  - ii. They could engage with trees on Lincoln
  - iii. They need a description of plan and budget
  - iv. Need presentation
  - v. Options plant better trees, strip on Lincoln, beautify
  - vi. Kate says sidewalk may be Route 1, hence owned by state?
  - vii. Community Plan doesn't have much info
  - viii. Planning department – ask them about the Route 1 sidewalk?



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- f. Illegal pruning strategies – create an official letter? – *Janin spoke briefly but has not yet drafted letter. Isabelle can send the letter that SM uses that could be used in Venice.*
- g. Coastal planting palettes for 3 habitats- dunes, wetland, terrace – Should we create? – Isabelle/Barry – DISCUSSION POSTPONED
- h. RAP Ocean Front Walk dune planting – Noel/Isabelle - DISCUSSION POSTPONED
- i. County beach dune plantings update – Noel - DISCUSSION POSTPONED
- j. Dog park planting RAP – Barry/Isabelle - DISCUSSION POSTPONED
- k. Micro forest at RAP – next steps – Barry/Isabelle - DISCUSSION POSTPONED
- l. Tree priority zones – where in Venice to focus? - DISCUSSION POSTPONED
- m. Sample Tree Disclosure Form – Noel
  - i. *Discussion and motion carried that VARB supports requiring tree disclosure form as part of the development package to be presented when new development apply for approval. We also discussed waiting for the tree disclosure form to be drafted by the City Forest Officer that is being circulated to city departments at the moment and then approving that form once available.*
  - ii. *SARAH WAUTERS AYE, ISABELLE DUVIVIER AYE, NOEL AYE, BARRY CAMPION AYE, MARK RYAVEC AYE.*
- n. Status of adopted and modified SM Tree Protection Zone (TPZ) – Sarah POSTPONED.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. Winter schedule of activities: tree walks, mulch, work days, water days, planting days

## COMMITTEE COMMENTS

Next VARb meeting December 17, 2021

**PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS:** The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Neighborhood Committee on any agenda item before the Neighborhood Committee takes 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 Neighborhood Committee jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Neighborhood 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 Neighborhood Committee meeting. Public comment is limited to 1 minute per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer.

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