



Venice Neighborhood
 Council
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Joint meeting of Homeless ness Committee and Board of Officers – Minutes

Meeting Date: Tuesday 6/28/22 Meeting Time: 7:00pm
Meeting Location: Webinar online zoom meeting 88914018890
Contact: Frank.Murphy@VeniceNC.org

1. 7:00 pm – Call to Order

2. Roll Call

Frank Murphy (chair)	P
Brian Ulf	P
Colette Bailey	P
Pat Raphael	P
Liz Wright	P
Vicki Halliday	P
Stan Muhammad	
Jody Mortimer	P
Jim Murez (ex-officio)	P

3. Review, Comment and Adopt Minutes from May 31, 2022 meeting

No errors were reported, minutes were accepted.

4. Chair Report (5 minutes).

5. PUBLIC COMMENT – 1 minute on non-agenda items related to Homelessness Committee only.

6. Homeless Round Table – A panel of current or recent homeless people focusing on their story and their concerns, needs and wants when homeless.

Presentation (20 minutes).
 Committee Q&A (15 minutes).

Steve was kind enough to share his story with this committee and its attendees. He has been sober for 14 years and is constantly working to stay that way. He does have a housing voucher, but finding a place is very hard because, to help cope with PTSD, he has two service dogs. His social worker is seeking a county voucher so the search can be expanded.

Currently living in his car at the dog park, he focuses on keeping the area physically clean, also alcohol and drug free. He, and the homeless folks near him, are addicts who see physically staying away from drugs and alcohol as a key part in their continuing battle for sobriety. In addition to keeping himself sober, he mentors as many others as he can. Each time they get a chip (awarded by AA or NA for continued abstinence), they come to him and he calls their mother and tells her the news and gives a wellness report.

- 7. Public comment on Homeless Round Table presentation. 1 minute.

New Business

- 8. **Items for discussion and Possible Action – Motion**

Item – 1

Submitted by Jody Mortimer

WHEREAS an obstacle to the Venice unhoused residents to improve their living situations and obtain services is that there are no safe places for them to store personal, important documents and small essential items for short periods of time during daylight hours
 WHEREAS day visitors from elsewhere while in the water swimming or surfing have no secure place for important items other than their vehicles which are most like parked a significant distance from beach.
 WHEREAS day visitors that take public transportation also are greatly inconvenienced not to have a secure place to store important items while visiting the beach.

THEREFORE

Provide safe and secure lockers for the local unhoused and day beach visitors at various sites near the Venice boardwalk. These lockers of various sizes can incorporate the airport and train station temporary locker model or the Marina del Ray condominium bike lockers example.

To: LAHSA, LA Bureau of Sanitation, LA County Parks and Rec’s, Councilman Mike Bonin, LAPD, Council Poverty and Homeless Committee, Department of Health and County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl.

Motion was made to table until July 2022 regular meeting, to enable a rewrite that focuses on the needs of the homeless for secure storage of important documents.

Frank Murphy (chair)		Y
Brian Ulf		Y
Colette Bailey		Y
Pat Raphael		Y
Liz Wright		Y
Vicki Halliday		Y
Stan Muhammad		
Jody Mortimer		Y
Jim Murez (ex-officio)		

M = made motion, S = seconded, (Y = yes, N = no, A = abstain) (7,0,0)

Item – 2

Community Impact Statement

Council File 18-0510-S2

Whereas:

The community was told the facility would be temporary, and few of the promises made by the City to area residents were fulfilled.

The City promised it would be designed to fit Venice, that residents of ABH would be good neighbors, nearby areas would be cleaned up, and there would be extra LAPD protection. These promises still appear on the 11th Council District's website (<https://11thdistrict.com/a-bridge-home/venice-faq>)

None of these promises took place. Area sidewalks still contain encampments, public landscaping ruined, sidewalk sanitation often lacking and a special LAPD patrol was defunded.

Chain link fencing is not fitting for a residential neighborhood. Zero beautification was made. Zero sound proofing was made. Holes are often cut in the fencing at the Southern end of the site for exit and entry without using the security gate.

There are instances of residents of bridge housing also maintaining tents and encampments on nearby streets and there is no containment of these dual residences.

Comprehensive clean ups have stopped on Hampton near the facility. Encampments still exist in what was designated as the SecZ area.

There was no opportunity given for area residents to discuss rules that might be needed for the site beyond the initial meetings held prior to the opening.

We do not believe the facility has met its commitments to 'protect neighbors from any nuisance' nor have the promised number of housing placements taken place. The blame cannot be put on the pandemic.

The facility has not met its goal of integrating into the surrounding community. In fact, the adjacent walk streets and other areas became magnets for ABH residents' recreation. The facility is a disaster for the area attracting drug dealers, unhoused who are not in the ABH program, and friends of the ABH residents who 'hang' in the neighborhood.

Motion:

The Venice Neighborhood Council objects to the lease renewal **and services contract extension** for A Bridge Home, located at 100 Sunset, Venice, California 90291.

	Amend motion to include services contract extension	Vote on amended motion	
Frank Murphy (chair)		Y	
Brian Ulf	S	MY	
Colette Bailey		SY	
Pat Raphael		N	
Liz Wright		Y	
Vicki Halliday	M		

Stan Muhammad			
Jody Mortimer		N	
Jim Murez (ex-officio)			

M = made motion, S = seconded, (Y = yes, N = no, A = abstain) (4,2,0)

Housekeeping corrections were made - The motion portion was moved to the end. The terms "Motion" and "Whereas" were added.

9. Committee Comments on items not on the agenda for consideration

10. ADJOURN