



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294
www.VeniceNC.org Email: info@VeniceNC.org



Rules & Selections Committee
Wednesday, October 25, 2023, 6:00 PM
Extra Space Storage, 658 Venice Blvd, CA 90291

AGENDA

Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte, Secretaria, al por correo electrónico Secretary@VeniceNC.org para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Rules & Selections Committee’s jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board 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 Committee meeting. Public comment is limited to one (1) minute per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Committee.

Current Bylaws 7/1/2022 -

<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/committee63d2e3ea0ffff.pdf>

Current Standing Rules 3/14/2017 -

<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/committee6361686a6d150.pdf>

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

CJ Cole, Co-Chair	Christopher Lee	
Lisa Redmond, Co-Chair		
Helen Fallon		Brian Averill ex officio

APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES

September - <https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting6533082a76064.pdf>

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT: Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Rules & Selections Committee’s subject matter jurisdiction. Each speaker will be allowed one (1) minute(s) unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Proposed Bylaws Modifications to Article V**
 - a. Submitted by Helen Fallon
 - b. <https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting65357f48508ed.pdf>
 - c. **Motion: The VNC Rules and Selections Committee approves the Proposed Bylaws Modifications to Article V and request the Board to place on the next for consideration/acceptance.**
 - d. Public Comment
 - e. Committee Discussion/Vote



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2. VNC Officer & Standing Committee Duties and Responsibilities Update

- a. Purpose: For the updating of the bylaws and standing rules
- b. Current duties & responsibilities from the current bylaws & standing rules
- c. <https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting65357f5d98774.pdf>
- d. Public Comment
- e. Committee Discussion/Vote

3. Make-Up of the Board of Officers

- a. Current
- b. Possible scenarios
 - i. Neighborhoods/Districts
 - ii. Representatives (residential, business, organization, youth/senior, education, etc.)
- c. Other NCs Board makeups:
<https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/meeting65357f5d98cbd.pdf>
- d. Public Comment
- e. Committee Discussion/Vote

4. Increasing the Stakeholder Franchise from One (1) to Thirteen (13) or Less for the Position of Community Officer

- a. Submitted by stakeholder Nick Antonicello
- b. WHEREAS, the current stakeholder franchise is limited to just one (1) ballot selection in the biannual Venice Neighborhood Council elections, yet thirteen (13) are elected, and WHEREAS, stakeholders are only participating in electing less than half the entire board, and WHEREAS, nearly every elected board member supported revising the community officer selection/election process,
- c. **MOTION: THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Rules & Selections Committee amend the current election procedures for Community Officer beginning with the 2025 elections and that all stakeholders can now select up to thirteen (13) community officers or less, thus maximizing the stakeholder franchise and ensuring a one-man, one-vote compliance.**
- d. Public Comment
- e. Committee Discussion/Vote

5. VNC Committee Meeting Spaces Standing Rule

- a. Keeping in mind encouragement of stakeholder participation and due to lack of/cost of public parking; ambient noise; business distraction/alcohol consumption; potential attendee expense; unfair bias supporting specific businesses; need for ADA accessibility, and inability to handle oversize participation if necessary, local restaurants and residential homes/businesses are not acceptable locations to hold public VNC committee meetings. To support this, a list of possible locations that meet the criteria for public committee meetings and do not have a charge for use will be compiled by the Vice President within 30 days.
- b. **MOTION: The Board of Officers hereby adds to its Standing Rules: VNC Committee Meetings shall not be held in restaurants or private residential homes/businesses, and only held in no cost public meeting spaces, unless there is a board-voted exception, that meet requirements of ADA access and have plentiful and accessible free public parking. Businesses with a free private meeting room and free public parking may be deemed acceptable.**
- c. Public Comment
- d. Committee Discussion/Vote



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NEW BUSINESS:

6. **Request LA City Attorney to Render an Opinion on the Current VNC Board Voting Procedures in the Election of Our 13 Community Officers**
 - a. Submitted by stakeholder Nick Antonicello
 - b. WHEREAS, the Venice Neighborhood Council elects thirteen (13) at-large, Community Officers on a biannual basis, and
 - c. WHEREAS, despite having thirteen officers elected at-large, a Venice stakeholder is restricted to a single selection of just one (1), and
 - d. WHEREAS, such an election process restricts and minimizes all stakeholders in participating in such a process that allows a full and complete voter franchise, and
 - e. WHEREAS, Venice stakeholders are only duly participating in 38% of the board's full elected membership, and
 - f. WHEREAS, these same Venice stakeholders are being denied full ballot access, which may be in conflict with the rules and procedures of DONE (Department of Neighborhood Empowerment of LA), the Los Angeles City Charter, and the Constitution of the State of California, and
 - g. WHEREAS, a full review of these flawed and constitutionally questionable election practices should be reviewed by a legal and qualified authority,
 - h. **MOTION: THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Venice Neighborhood Council ask in writing that the Office of the LA City Attorney review the current selection and voting process of the position of Community Officer(s) for the Venice Neighborhood Council and further offer guidance and judgement if the current procedures in place violate the spirit of the "one man, one vote" principle, and that the LA City Attorney render an opinion if such voting practices are in conflict with the rules and regulations of DONE and the Los Angeles City Charter and that the BY LAWS and Standing Rules of the VNC be in accordance with the proper and legal procedures in selecting and electing the thirteen Community Officers of the Venice Neighborhood Council before the scheduled biannual elections in 2025.
 - i. Public Comment
 - j. Committee Discussion/Vote

ADJOURNMENT: Time _____

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request will provide reasonable accommodation 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. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by calling (213) 978-1551 or email: NCsupport@lacity.org

Public Posting of Agendas -

The Venice Neighborhood Council agendas are posted for public review as follows:

- Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd., Venice, CA 90291
- www.VeniceNC.org
- Receive agendas by email, subscribe to L.A. City's [Early Notification System \(ENS\)](#)



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Notice to Paid Representatives -

If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 48.01 et seq. More information is available at ethics.lacity.org/lobbying. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or ethics.commission@lacity.org

Public Access of Records -

In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at our website: www.VeniceNC.org or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact the VNC Secretary, email at: Secretary@VeniceNC.org.

Reconsideration and Grievance Process -

For information on the NC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the NC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our website www.VeniceNC.org