

Venice Neighborhood Council
Schools & Parks Committee
Venice Branch Library

January 23, 2025 5:30pm - 6:45pm

Committee Members Present: Paul Davis, Regan Kibbe, Mehmoosh Mojallali, Robin Murez, Julie Bean, Melissa Maccfadyen, John Palka

5:35 called to order

Minutes for Nov 2024 – Lack of quorum

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT:

Eileen Pollock Erickson – Centennial Park is in poor condition. Took a video. The park's entrance was padlocked. A homeless tent inside the park. The park has since been unlocked. Paul invited Eileen to become a member of our committee or simply be an interested citizen who would like to advance the park's development.

Next step with Centennial Park - It is our committee's responsibility to follow up on our Centennial Park motion that was approved by the VNC and resulted in a signed letter from the VNC being sent to RAP. What is RAP's response? Our committee also need to contact Traci Park's office to see what it thinks need to be done to move Centennial Park forward.

Paul Davis and Eric Donaldson will follow up on the signed VNC letter to RAP.

Paul Davis – We should have a standing monthly agenda item that follows up on any previous motions forwarded by our committee to the VNC.

It was agreed that the School & Parks Committee should try to get a meeting with RAP and Park's office to discuss Centennial Park. Sean Siva thought this was a good idea.

[Kathryn Irwin (guest) supports Amanda's motion.]

GOVERNMENT/PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS:

Sean Silva from Traci Park's office joined us. Park's office has been fully engaged with LA city fires. This has been a 24/7 operation.

Park's office followed up with RAP about Centennial Park. The park opened just before holidays without any notice to Park's office. Park office concerned that it was opened without them being notified and with the park being in its present poor condition. Sean said

that RAP has Centennial Park classified as “passive status,” which means that there are no plans to develop the park.

The carousel will not be in Centennial Park, but Park’s office will work to find an appropriate space for it.

The Schools & Parks Committee should all be on the lookout for:

1. Potentially hazardous fire-supporting conditions (brush overgrowth, etc.) at city parks and other municipal/public facilities,
2. trees that are damaged and present possible hazards to the public,
3. and an overabundances of palm fronds stacked up on sidewalks or streets

Traci Park now on an LA City Council ad hoc committee for fire recover. She stepped down from the Olympic Committee.

Water quality in Venice dipped, but it is now back to normal. DWP is testing their water infrastructure well beyond the Palisades and that includes Venice. Venice water is good.

Automated auto license readers introduced in valley and resulted in a greater apprehension of criminals include people wanted by FBI. Park sees this as keeping our city safer.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS (PARKS):

Amanda Heinke – Venice Beach Accessibility Project – Motion attached to today’s agenda and presented. The motion seeks to provide more walkways to the ocean waters. Locations and materials not yet set. Amanda Heinke envisions the walkways near parking lots and playgrounds. This project is at a very early stage in which Amanda is looking for public support.

Helen Fallon - Vague motions are not super useful to the VNC. They are not effective and often result in little or no action. Details are needed.

Paul Davis recommends: Amanda Heinke will supply supporting document of her work that provide more project details. These documents will accompany the motion to the VNC. Amanda agreed.

Paul Davis moved to approve the Venice Beach Accessibility Project with the addition of the documents from Amanda Heinke with more project details...Robin Mures seconded the motion.

7 approve and 0 descent - MOTION APPROVED with the addition of attached files supplied by Amanda

Meeting adjourned at 7:00