

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING

Date: April 5, 2025 Time: 9 A.M.

Location: Community Room-Extra Space Storage

658 S. Venice Blvd.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER Time: 9:02 AM

ROLL CALL: Present: Helen Fallon, Chair; Crystal Lopez; Lisa Redmond Absent: Eric Hartnack

DECLARATION OF EXPARTE COMMUNICATIONS AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST if any: NONE

APPROVAL of PRIOR MINUTES: Motion to approve March 4, 2025 minutes. LR Moved, HF 2nd:
3/0/0

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT: Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Budget Committee's subject matter jurisdiction. Steve Bradbury

CHAIR REPORT AND COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS/UPDATES:

Because we are holding this committee meeting before the 5th of the month and the Clerk does not generate the MER until after the 5th of the month an excel spreadsheet reconciling the expenses for March to the City Dashboard was prepared as substitute. The MER itself will be posted in the Board supporting documents and committee supporting documents as soon as it is available and will be sent to the budget committee members. The budget adjustment transferring \$4,000 to NPGs from Office and Election funds was amended by Steve Bradbury to be "simultaneous" to one or two Board Members being appointed by the President to do an 'audit 'of the funding. I have been unable to fund the "Trees" NPG that we submitted an approved because the amount approved exceeds the \$4,000 amount currently budgeted. An amendment must be germane to the main motion and this audit has nothing to do with a budget adjustment. I plan to resubmit the budget adjustment motion to the Board so that the budget adjustment can be made. The motion approving funding for the QR codes for the Walking Tour was pulled by the VNC President at the AdCom meeting when the Board agenda was being scheduled so was not heard by the Board. Subsequent follow-up indicates that the PPP Committee Chair Robin Murez supposedly has a conflict of interest that no one else but the city attorney is aware of and no explanation from the city attorney has been provided.

Lisa: status on announcement of NPG availability: Lisa will finish up and submit for review before asking Brian to post on Constant Contact.

OLD BUSINESS: Checklist for NPGs: Discussion and review of checklist based on revisions from last month. (See Supporting documents.) After reviewing and making some changes the committee voted 3/0/0 to send the finalized amended version to the Board asking that it be approved and posted to the Budget and Finance Committee page.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Review of Excel Budget as of 3/31/25 (see Chair comments above)

Motion: The Venice Board approves the March 31, 2025 Monthly Expenditure Reports (MER). supporting documents-excel spreadsheet) LR moved, CL 2nd , 3/0/0

2. Discussion and Motion to purchase a software license for “Canva” from the Department of Empowerment for approximately \$140. (This is similar to how we obtain our Zoom license.) (See supporting document-e-mail from Empower)

Motion: The VNC Board approves the purchase of Canva from the Department of Empowerment not to exceed \$140. CL moved, LR 2nd. 3/0/0

Motions from 3/11/25 Outreach Committee meeting.

a. Purchase of 8 foot Reusable Banner for use between Palm Trees on Venice Blvd.

(This motion enables the smaller 6’ banner currently used at this location to be hung in the North Venice area to increase the Neighborhood Council’s visibility in the community.)

Motion: The VNC Board approves the Outreach Committee to purchase an additional 8’ Reusable Banner using the same preapproved artwork from previous banners for placement in larger areas to create greater visibility announcing for VNC events, cost not to exceed \$500.00 CL Moved, LR 2nd 3/0/0

b. VNC QR Code and Larger version of the VNC Website address replacement patches for our Reusable Banners.

Motion: The VNC Board approves the Outreach Committee to purchase replacement patches to increase the size of the current VNC website address and permanent QR code for our three (3) reusable VNC banners not to exceed \$200.00 CR Moved, LR 2nd 3/0/0

4. Review, discussion and possible motions for the following NPGs that have been submitted within the last month to the VNC.

- a. NPG for \$4,750 from Beautify LA to find housing for homeless, plant gardens etc. (see supporting documents)

MOTION: Budget and Finance moved to deny: Start date has passed, did not include that they are asking other NCs for funding, much of budget is for activities committees and service providers already do and exceeds currently budgeted NPG funding. LR moved, CL 2nd 0/3/0

- b. NPG for \$5,000 from Parents, Educators, Teachers and Students in Action (PESA) to provide services to approx. 20 students/families (see supporting documents)

MOTION: Budget and Finance moves to deny: Budget lacks details, limited public benefit (possibly 20 families served), per SPY-no evidence of established activity within Venice, also exceeds available funding. LR moved, HF 2nd 0/3/0

- c. Placeholder for Venice Community Resource Center-no NPG submitted. **No action taken**

Next meeting date: Monday 5/12, 6 p.m.

Adjournment: **10:12 AM**