**Venice Arbor Committee (VArb) Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date: April 25th, 2025

Meeting Time: 11:00 AM Pacific Time  
Meeting Location: Zinque, 1440 Lincoln Ave., Venice, CA

Contact: [sarahwauters123@gmail.com](mailto:sarahwauters123@gmail.com), [a.kemkes@verizon.net](mailto:a.kemkes@verizon.net)

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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 the Venice Branch Library at our website: <https://www.venicenc.org/committees/viewCommittee/venice-arbor-committee> 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 Sarah Wauters at [sarahwauters123@gmail.com](mailto:sarahwauters123@gmail.com).

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* Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd., Venice, CA90291
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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](http://ethics.lacity.org/lobbying). For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or [ethics.commission@lacity.org](mailto:ethics.commission@lacity.org)

Public comment will be limited to one comment for 60 seconds per item.

* Please do not raise your hand more then once per item
* Raise your hand at the start of the items you want to speak on. We will then close public comment and announce the last person to speak a few minutes after the start of the item.
* No ceding your time to others will be allowed
* The meeting is being video and audio recorded.
* The public will be able to listen and speak but their video will be disabled.

| Sarah Wauters, Co-Chair | X | Andreas Kemkes, Co-Chair | X |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Isabelle Duvivier | X | Barry Campion | X |
| Janin Paine | X | Eric Schiff | X |
| Nico Ruderman (ex-officio) |  |  |  |

1. Call to Order – February Meeting Minutes approved, Barry Campion moved, Andreas seconded.
2. PUBLIC COMMENT - Noel Johnston - Torrey Pines on the Beach are tabled for now. Neighbors at the beach seem to be attached to the view of the palm trees.
3. REPORTS
   1. Chair Report – Andreas Kemkes speaks about the trees being cut down in LA, and also that there have been budget cuts to the Urban Forestry. CFAC will probably not write a budget letter this year, as they are focused on other things.
   2. Report from CFAC - Isabelle Duvivier - Next Thursday Travis Longcore will speak
   3. VVG Report – Noel Johnston or Isabelle Duvivier - VVG will assist Charles Miller with his Native Tree small parkway test project.
   4. Pollinator Project - Janin Paine - Google project on Sunset permitted for four Oaks and seeking permit for bioswale. Getting permits for tree wells on 3rd and Hampton. Concrete cutting was paid for by PARC. New tree wells on Hampton, 3rd and 4th. Connie met with Adam, who will train the crew, they need to hire someone to train the BID crew so Adam will begin to do this.
4. NEW BUSINESS
   1. Public Gardens on Venice Blvd - possible privatization of trees - Japanese Memorial - Noel on Japanese American monument on Venice and Lincoln for concrete cutting and planting. They have started work with the Japanese community.
   2. East Venice Desert Willows - Replace? - San Marcos says they don't plant Chitalpa near the Coast. Leon said you could use small eucalyptus torwood, and Hector will approve. Next Month - look at the willows on Appleton to see how they are doing. Then assess for what trees to replace.
5. OLD BUSINESS
   1. Livable Communities Initiative - Presentation to Joint Meeting with LUPAC, Parking & Transportation, Schools & Parks
   2. Dell Project on LADOT Parking Lot 701 - Discuss new strategy on our motion regarding Lot 701 - put it on the May Agenda.
   3. Santa Monica Airport Park LOI - Send some links to the rest of the VARB.
   4. Shell Circle Project - walk the neighborhood, with Barry, meet with the neighbors, get them to think about the logistics. Work with Barry and Eric to get a new meeting with the Shell Circle Crowd.
6. ANNOUNCEMENTS
7. ADJOURNED - 12:45

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