



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / www.VeniceNC.org

Email: info@VeniceNC.org Phone: 310-421-8627

DRAFT

Venice Arbor Committee (VArb) Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: June 20th, 2025

Meeting Time: 11:00 AM Pacific Time

Meeting Location: Zinque, 1440 Lincoln Ave., Venice, CA

Contact: sarahwauters123@gmail.com, a.kemkes@verizon.net

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 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.

Public Posting of Agendas -

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- Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd., Venice, CA 90291
- www.VeniceNC.org
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(Brown Act Required Language): 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 comment will be limited to one comment for 60 seconds per item.

- Please do not raise your hand more than 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	
Janin Paine	x	Eric Schiff	x
Nico Ruderman (ex-officio)			

1. Call to Order

2. No PUBLIC COMMENTS were offered

3. REPORTS

- Chair Report – Forego for Agenda time.
- Report from CFAC – Working on stabilizing the urban forest in burn areas.
- VVG Report – Forego for Agenda time.
- Pollinator Project - Janin Paine – Pollinator Garden is applying for 48 new or expanded treewells in 3rd ave. and Hampton Ave. area. City to pay for it. Venice BID will involved in maintenance, VVG will install. Barry met with BID about more efficient means of watering, she will talk with Adam about soaker hose. Looking at permits for swales and also considering raingarden from the storm drain.

4. OLD BUSINESS



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- a. Motion Right-of-Way PROTECTION OF THE TREES on Venice Blvd – Steps taken about tree removals. Past removal preceded the R-permit, so illegally removed, according to Jim Murez. All trees are in the public right-of-way. We would like to see them save trees and keep fence at 42 inches, as per the R-permit. Sean Silva, of CD11, advised lodging a complaint via 311 and send the reports to him. Revocable permits do not allow for tree removal. Conclude not to lodge 311 complaints until we talk to the owners, see if we can work together. Drafted motion not considered.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Zone Zero rules for SM Mountains - Zone 0 rules for Santa Monica mountains. State board of Forestry with Newsom. Zone 0 says no vegetation within 5 feet of home, new map comes down to Chinatown. Likely an insurance lobby issue. Vegetation removal around homes, controversy about this Joanne D'Antonio has been doing a bit of work. Barry suggests asking what science decisions are being made on? Diane and Nicole think they won't change anything. Isabelle asks how we engage. Sarah suggests that we get approval of Brentwood Homeowner's Association, make tweaks. Deadline is looming. Sarah will draft something, Isabelle suggests we adopt another letter so we don't present as the experts.

6. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Great Park Coalition - Andreas reports on convoluted survey with 3 scenarios. Deadline for submission is Sunday.
- b. Dell Project on LADOT Parking Lot 701 - using Farmer's Market lot. Pulled item before last meeting. Clark Brown wants to talk to Sarah. Isabelle suggests asking Sean about how best to proceed. A lot of collective tree growth there.
- c. MTA Project – nothing to report. Isabelle spoke with developer.
- d. East Venice Desert Willows - East Venice Eucalyptus Torcata or Torwood suggested, Muffley gave thumbs down on Torwood and Barry had bad luck with Torcata.
- e. Livable Communities Initiative – wont happen until August meeting.
- f. Shell Circle Project - Isabelle sent Theodore Payne native plant list to alert the neighbors as to the best plants to choose for the project. Milwood and Oakwood Beautification – Isabelle and Janin will work on drawing and application for permit.

7. ADJOURNED at 12:30

THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT:

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