



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / www.VeniceNC.org
Email: info@VeniceNC.org Phone: 310-421-8627

Venice Arbor Committee (VARb) Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: November 21, 2025

Meeting Time: 11:00 AM Pacific Time

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

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

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 Andreas Kemkes at a.kemkes@verizon.net.

Public Posting of Agendas -

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

- Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd., Venice, CA90291
- 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.

Andreas Kemkes, Chair	X	Barry Campion	X
Isabelle Duvivier	X	Janin Paine	X
Eric Schiff	X	Sarah Wauters	X

1. Call to Order 11:14 – Approval of minutes
 - a. 5/23/2025 Move to approve SRW, 2nd BC - 5-0-0 - ID not yet present
 - b. 6/20/2025 Move to approve SRW, 2nd BC - 5-0-0 - ID not yet present
2. PUBLIC COMMENT (will be limited to 1 minute to the general public only, at this time).
Comments on items not on the agenda.
3. REPORTS
 - a. Chair Report – Andreas Kemkes - Andreas tried to save a tree on Lincoln. Made a report at CFAC. Andreas also learned that there needs to be a permit to put astroturf on a parkway. If there's no BOE permit it can be removed. Janin said she would send information. Sean Silva says they will pick up the Rose Ave. greening very soon. Barry to email Sean for meeting date.
 - b. CFAC Report – Isabelle Duvivier
 - c. LUPC Report - Sarah Wauters - We are able to get developer to change all plants to natives on LUPC case. Metro project - Jay Stark can move ahead without VNC approval, but Coastal Commission considers our decision. SRW hopes to get natives added to all small infill projects.
 - d. VVG Report – Noel Johnston/Isabelle Duvivier



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- e. Pollinator/Watershed Project – Janin Paine - need the new tree wells to be inspected by Public Works

4. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Drafting of Tree List for New Development and Renovation for LUPC - Tree Species and Plant Species List - Sarah and Barry will work together to finalize a list. Pollinator understory- Sarah hopes to send a short list of sun-loving and shade-loving easily maintained choices that don't require heavy maintenance.
- b. Changes to Future Committee Meetings and Website - discussed changing venue and time. Members objected to coming at night because they are very tired at the end of the day. Also discussed changing to zoom.

Location Suggestions:

- Skills Center
- Gjusta
- Library
- Zoom

5. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Motion Right-of-Way PROTECTION OF THE TREES on Venice Blvd - NEXT STEPS - Lucy and her husband built on Venice and were not informed about the previously existing planting plan, and when they took the old plan to BOE, they were told that permit was closed and no longer relevant. We are still waiting on Sean Silva to get a meeting together with BOE and Urban Forestry. Lucy asked for us to remove the R-Permit since it names her and her husband. Vincent Autiero of Department of Neighborhood Empowerment asked that Lucy send a formal request. Lucy and husband want to plant native plants and trees for pollinators.
 - i. We need to get BOE on track to refer owners to the old planting plan when they give out R-permits.
- b. Have a VArb retreat to focus on what we want to accomplish this next year. Agendize this. What are the highest priorities? Reach out to all the local landscape architects? Johnny on Flower, Di Zock, Russ Cletta?

6. ADJOURNED 1:00pm

THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT:

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 and 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 you wish to attend by contacting Sarah Wauters at 917 822 2247 by text or email at sarahwauters123@gmail.com.