

Venice Neighborhood Council

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING

February 11, 2026, 6 p.m.

Extra Space Storage Community Room

MINUTES

Meeting called to order at 6:02 pm

Roll Call with declaration of ex parte communication and conflicts of interest if any:

Present: Chair: Helen Fallon, Members: Lisa Redmond, Crystal Lopez and Robin Rudisill

No ex parte or conflicts of interest declared

Minutes of January 14, 2026 approved as submitted 4/0/0

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT on non-agendized items within Budget Committee's purview: 5 attendees- Robin Murez suggests that documents that Board members need be back-ended on the website. We don't need to be cutting down trees.

CHAIR REPORT: There was an e-mail blast about availability of NPG funding. This was also posted on the VNC website. We Received an inquiry (no NPG submitted) asking if VNC would commit to funding \$500-\$1,000 for a pet fair that would benefit low income pet owners. The flyer for their last event provided micro chipping for the first 45 attendees with vaccines at low cost. Emailed that the VNC is not in a position to evaluate without an NPG and that what was supplied may not meet the City's requirement of public benefit to Venice at no cost. Venice Heritage submitted an NPG for \$5,000 for "oral history video editing" after the agenda was posted. Board member Jason Sugars is still on their Board. I will need to ask our NCAD if this can even be funded since prior submissions from the Venice Heritage Museum that were sent to the Board were ineligible for funding because of Jason Sugar's conflict of interest. The application is also incomplete.

OLD BUSINESS: NONE

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Motion: The VNC Board approves the January 2026 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER). CL moved, RR 2nd. 4/0/0
2. Discussion and possible funding motion for in-person RV Townhall submitted by Outreach. Current allocated budget in Admin Packet is \$1,000 NOTE: \$400 has been already allocated for banners and promotional materials. Motion reflects name change.

MOTION: The VNC Board approves a budget not to exceed \$1,000 for the in Person "RVs Parked on the Street of Venice Town Hall" previously approved as a Zoom event. Funds may be used for reasonable and necessary event related expenses, including location or room costs, equipment rentals such as tables and chairs, security support, decorum signage, location staffing, and very light refreshments such as water and protein bars. VNC approves necessary budget adjustment if needed. Crystal Lopez moved, Robin Rudisill 2nd. 4/0/0

3. Discussion and possible motion regarding placeholder motions submitted by Gary Pearl-see supporting documents. Mr. Pearl did not attend the committee meeting so was unavailable to answer clarifying questions.

Comments from the public and committee members are summarized for each “motion.” Overall conclusion was that this submission for requests during a “transition” were premature with an election for a new president scheduled for less than a week away.

- a. \$800 for Temporary Parliamentarian for 8 meetings- Submission was not clear if this was for 8 meetings or per meeting. There are only 4 Board meetings left in our fiscal year. Unclear who would be hired. Is this an approved vendor? City has to approve ALL contracts. Cannot commit funds for meetings that take place after the fiscal year ends June 30th.
- b. \$560 for Temporary Administrative/Secretarial support: Why would the VNC hire a virtual assistant to “review our Bylaws”? Template language is provided by DONE. There has never been an issue regarding templates before.
- c. \$1,200 for Board Retreat: Done has advised that a Retreat not be held until **after** the election for President, if necessary. Mr. Pearl referenced the North Hills NC budget for a retreat but did not provide the details or a link to their “agenda”. He proposed that the funding could be used during a retreat for in person training of Board members on Robert’s Rules. Board members were given the opportunity to take RR training free of charge and at their convenience on Zoom for the first 6 months of this fiscal year (June-Dec) of this fiscal year so all who wanted to already did.
- d. \$275 to print 21 copies of Bylaws, Standing Rules and Rules of Decorum. Rules of Decorum is not an official VNC document. Done advised the VNC that proposed consequences for violating the “rules” are illegal and the proposal was not heard by the Board. Bylaws are available on the VNC website and amendments must be submitted by April first. Standing Rules-Rules Committee has not updated the list of Standing Rules for Standing Rules passed after June 2024 and Standing Rules are always subject to change. Printing copies for Bylaws or Standing Rules that could be obsolete in a few months seems wasteful and a waste of trees.
- e. \$255 to purchase 21 copies of Robert’s Rules. No guarantee these would not just disappear and not be returned to the VNC. Mr. Pearl proposes that the Board could purchase the copies and be reimbursed by Board Members who want to keep the copy. VNC is not allowed to do this. Free resources to review Robert’s Rules exist on the Internet, at local libraries and at Empower LA.

MOTION: Budget and Finance moves to deny the above funding requests for the following reasons: Requests are premature, DONE is proposing to hold a Board Retreat, Rules Committee has not finalized a list of Standing Rules, Bylaws may possibly be amended, VNC cannot sign contracts, VNC cannot gift or sell Robert’s Rules to Board members, overall proposal needs further clarification, lacks details and required information.

Crystal Lopez moves, Robin Rudisill 2nd Motion carried 4/0/0

Next meeting: Wednesday March 11, 2026 at 6 pm

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm

