



# Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / [www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org)  
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## Venice Arbor Committee (VArb) Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: May 15, 2026

Meeting Time: 11:00 AM Pacific Time

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

Contact: [sarahwauters123@gmail.com](mailto:sarahwauters123@gmail.com), [andreas.kemkes@venicenc.org](mailto:andreas.kemkes@venicenc.org)

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- Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd., Venice, CA90291
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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           |   | Sarah Wauters | X |

### 1. Call to Order

- Approved minutes for 04/24/2026 meeting, Andreas Kemkes moved, Janin Paine seconded. 5-0-0 vote.

### 2. PUBLIC COMMENT None.

### 3. REPORTS

- Chair Report – Andreas Kemkes - President’s Report – Transportation Committee worked on survey and came with a transportation plan for Venice.
- CFAC Report – Isabelle Duvivier - A lot of good things that came out of the last CFAC meeting. 1) Report by Shade LA about canopy. Now kind of dated – some other reports things are now better. The city is becoming more openminded, and easier to navigate. 2) Seems to be initiative to sell certain unused parks to federal government. 26-0489 Charter Reform file. 3) There is an effort to streamline funding for capital infrastructure plan – they are thinking of modeling it for the Olympic projects. Purpose is to get all govt agencies to work together.
- LUPC Report - Sarah Wauters - LUPC co-chair Robin Rudisill ran a town hall on the national parks study and Barry and Sarah both supportive of federal support and involvement because of more resources. Different levels available. Could be positive for the beach and perhaps resources for the Rose Ave. estuary. Barry discusses that having one entity that has a reasonable communication and professional level instead of the patchwork that we have now.



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- d. SRW - Also reports on meeting with Mark Mack and Mark Ryavec for purposes of refurbishing Grand Blvd. There are BMP on Grand to flow into the box first expanding to add more water reclamation systems. look at permeable paving there. Barry doesn't like grasscrete. Barry proposes project to do landscaping like that on Lincoln and Ocean Park.
- e. VVG Report – Janin Paine/Isabelle Duvivier - Isabelle and Janin have been to Santa Monica city about how to address their watershed on the Southwest. Lincoln watershed to flow into Ozone or to Olympic high parking – ID and JP proposed to split it into two things and then we could do a school project at Olympic.
- f. Pollinator/Watershed Project – Janin Paine - PARC - exciting new swale. Talking about the Smart & Final parkways – want to do a new pollinator garden there. Possibly in more parts of the BID.

## 4. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Change the City Flower - City flower survey – Andreas talked to Adam and friend of his got some of the positive feedback, but got silent treatment from VNC. Think it's good idea to get the opinion of Lydia Ponce about flower that appropriate? SRW will explore with her.
- b. Mandatory Root Barriers for Parkways - ID thinks we should write a letter about it to CFAC and get them to address it, Barry says perhaps we should change to “optional” on the detail – “recommended” so that the inspector can make a call on it. Because it's preventing people from planting trees. Trees that are watered properly will not dig up the sidewalk.

## 5. ADJOURN 12:45

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