



VENICE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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



REGULAR BOARD MEETING — MINUTES

Tuesday, September 15th, 2026 | 6:30 PM

Westminster Elementary School — 1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd, Venice, CA 90291
(Enter from parking lot on Westminster Ave)

I. CALL TO ORDER AND BOARD ROLL CALL—the meeting was called to order at 6:37 pm. The Chair appointed Robin Rudisill as Alternate (non-voting) Secretary in the absence of Tima Bell, Secretary.

David Feige (President)	Alley Bean *	Lisa Redmond
Gary Pearl (Vice President)	Clark Brown **	Richard Stanger
Tima Bell (Secretary)	Fran Solomon	Sarah Mahir ***
Helen Fallon (Treasurer) ****	Jason Sugars	Ted Henderson
Mark Mack (LUPC Chair)	Jim Fitzgerald	Yolanda Gonzalez
Soraya Moss (Communications Chair)	Joseph Garcia	Vacant—see Note
Erica Moore (Outreach Chair)	Kenya Lee	Vacant—see Note

Strikethrough indicates absence

* Left at 9:30 pm, after the fourth & final round for the Second Board Seat

** Left at 9 pm, after agenda item III.C.

*** Absent during Second Board Seat Vote 1 (minor amount of time not recorded)

**** Absent during Second Board Seat Vote 2 (minor amount of time not recorded)

Note: Nico Ruderman joined the meeting as a voting member, at agenda item V.

Seaf Hartley joined the meeting as a non-voting member, at agenda item V.

A. DECLARATION OF EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS, CONFLICTS OF INTEREST AND/OR RECUSALS (Post-filing only)

Alley Bean reported a conversation with Jim Murez about the Tabor Court motion (VI.C.) and a conversation with David Feige about the censures (II.A. & B.).

B. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES

The VNC Board approves the Minutes of its Regular Meeting on August 18th 2026:

[meeting6a88cf1269536.pdf](#) and the Special Meeting on September 1st 2026:

[meeting6a9a1ad32a801.pdf](#)

VOTE on August 18, 2026 Minutes:

10: Yes (GP, AB, CB, FS, JS, JF, KL, RS, TH, YG)

5: No (HF, EM, JG, LR, SM)

1: Abstain (DF)

3: Absent (TB, MM, SMoss)

Motion passes.

VOTE on amendment to remove “NOTE: Erica, Helen, Sarah, & Clark were found Out of Order for interrupting the Chair, Disrupting the Meeting or Disorderly Conduct” in September 1, 2026 Minutes:

Moved by Lisa Redmond, Seconded by Sarah Mahir

9: Yes (HF, EM, AB, CB, FS, JS, JG, LR, SM)

6: No (GP, JF, KL, RS, TH, YG)

1 Abstain (DF)

3 Absent (TB, MM, SMoss)

Amendment passes.

VOTE on September 1, 2026 Minutes, as amended:

13: Yes (GP, HF, EM, AB, CB, FS, JS, JF, JG, KL, RS, TH, YG)
2: No (LR, SM)
1: Abstain (DF)
3: Absent (TB, MM, SMoss)

Motion passes.

II. CENSURES *Discussion and Possible Action on the censure of H. Fallon and L. Redmond.*

PLEASE NOTE: Special Voting provisions apply to this motion. Pursuant to Article V, Section 8. of the Bylaws. The Board shall decide by a majority vote of those present and voting whether or not the Board Member should be censured. The Board Member who is the subject of the censure motion shall not be counted as part of the majority present and voting and shall not be allowed to vote. For the purpose of censure motions, abstentions shall not be counted as votes.

A. THE CENSURE OF H. FALLON: (See Supporting Documents)

VOTE:

8: Yes (GP, CB, FS, JF, KL, RS, TH, YG)
6: No (EM, AB, JS, JG, LR, SM)
1: Abstain (DF)
1: Vote not counted (HF)
3: Absent (TB, MM, SMoss)

Motion passes (8 votes required).

B. THE CENSURE OF L. REDMOND: (See Supporting Documents)

VOTE:

9: Yes (GP, CB, FS, JF, KL, RS, TH, YG, DF)
6: No (HF, EM, AB, JS, JG, SM)
0: Abstain
1: Vote not counted (LR)
3 Absent (TB, MM, SMoss)

Motion passes (8 votes required).

III. FILLING ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE VACANCIES *Discussion and Possible Action on Kenya Lee and Ted Henderson filling the 2 current at large representative vacancies on the Administrative Committee, and Jim Fitzgerald replacing Sarah Mahir.*

PLEASE NOTE: Special Voting provisions apply to this motion. Pursuant to Article VII. Section 1.A. and Article V. Section 1 of the Bylaws. The only Board Members eligible to vote on this matter are the current At Large Community Members and the Community Interest Member. Those are: Alley Bean, Jim Fitzgerald, Jason Sugars, Fran Solomon, Richard Stanger, Kenya Lee, Clark Brown, Joseph Garcia, Yolanda Gonzalez, Ted Henderson, Lisa Redmond, and Sarah Mahir. The motion requires a quorum and must be passed by a majority of present voters.

A. KENYA LEE SHALL BE APPOINTED to represent the at-large board members at the Administrative Committee--assuming the seat vacated by Lisa Redmond.

VOTE:

8: Yes (AB, CB, FS, JF, KL, RS, TH, YG)
2: No (LR, SM)
2: Abstain (JS, JG)
12: Total At Large/Special Interest Members present

Motion passes.

B. TED HENDERSON SHALL BE APPOINTED to represent the at-large board members at the Administrative Committee--assuming the seat vacated by Nico Ruderman.

VOTE:

6: Yes (CB, FS, JF, RS, TH, YG)

4: No (AB, JG, LR, SM)

2: Abstain (JS, KL)

12: Total At Large/Special Interest Members present

Motion passes

- C. **SARAH MAHIR SHALL BE REPLACED BY JIM FITZGERALD** on the Administrative Committee.
(See Supporting Documents)

VOTE:

7: Yes (CB, FS, JF, KL, RS, TH, YG)

5: No (AB, JS, JG, LR, SM)

0: Abstain

12: Total At Large/Special Interest Members present

Motion passes (Standing Rule 45 applies.)

IV. BOARD ELECTIONS: *Discussion and Possible Action on filling 2 board vacancies.* (See Supporting Documents for Candidate Applications)

Pursuant to Article V. Section 6.B. of the Bylaws. Each board seat will be filled separately by a majority vote of the remaining board members. If no candidate receives a majority (10 or more votes) on the first ballot, voting will continue until one candidate receives a majority. When the first vacancy is filled the same voting process will occur for the second vacancy.

The Four Candidates are: **Amanda Heinke, Nico Ruderman, Seaf Hartley and Mikul Wing.** Each candidate will have up to 2 minutes to make an initial presentation. Then there will be up to 10 minutes of public comment, and up to 25 minutes of Board Q&A with the Candidates (candidates will all answer the same questions).

FIRST BOARD SEAT VOTE 1:

1: Amanda Heinke (FS)

8: Nico Ruderman (HF, EM, AB, JS, KL, LR, SM, YG)

4: Seaf Hartley (JF, RS, TH, DF)

2: Mikul Wing (GP, JG)

4: Absent (TB, MM, SMoss, CB)

No candidate reached 10 votes.

FIRST BOARD SEAT VOTE 2:

1: Amanda Heinke (TH)

12: Nico Ruderman (HF, EM, AB, FS, JS, JG, KL, LR, RS, SM, YG, DF)

1: Seaf Hartley (JF)

1: Mikul Wing (GP)

4 Absent (TB, MM, SMoss, CB)

Nico Ruderman is selected.

SECOND BOARD SEAT VOTE 1:

2: Amanda Heinke (FS, TH)

7: Seaf Hartley (AB, JS, JF, KL, RS, YG, DF)

2: Mikul Wing (GP, JG)

3: Abstain (HF, EM, LR)

5: Absent (TB, MM, SMoss, CB, SM)

No candidate reached 10 votes.

SECOND BOARD SEAT VOTE 2:

2: Amanda Heinke (FS, TH)

7: Seaf Hartley (AB, JS, JF, KL, RS, YG, DF)

2: Mikul Wing (GP, JG)
2: Abstain (EM, LR)
6: Absent (TB, MM, SMoss, HF, CB, SM)

No candidate reached 10 votes.

SECOND BOARD SEAT VOTE 3:

2: Amanda Heinke (FS, TH)
8: Seaf Hartley (AB, JS, JF, JG, KL, RS, YG, DF)
1: Mikul Wing (GP)
3: Abstain (HF, EM, LR)
5: Absent (TB, MM, SMoss, CB, SM)

No candidate reached 10 votes.

Mikul Wing withdrew his candidacy.

SECOND BOARD SEAT VOTE 4:

0: Amanda Heinke
11: Seaf Hartley (GP, AB, FS, JS, JF, JG, KL, RS, TH, YG, DF)
3: Abstain (HF, EM, LR)
5: Absent (TB, MM, SMoss, CB, SM)

Seaf Hartley is selected.

Nico Ruderman & Seaf Hartley were sworn in by Erica Gatica, DONE.

V. PRESENTATIONS, GOVERNMENT REPORTS

Because of the large number of time consuming issues on the Agenda, Government Reports will be extremely brief, and we will not have a question period.

- Congressman Ted Lieu's Office — Janet Turner
- Councilmember Traci Park's Office — Sean Silva
- LAPD

VI. NEW BUSINESS-- *Discussion and Possible Action on 132-26-VNC through 143-26-VNC*

A. BUDGET AND FINANCE

1. Treasurer's Report
2. Consideration of Budget and Finance Motions:

NOTE: Public comment will be taken on all Budget and Finance items at once, rather than on each individual motion. Board discussion of and voting on Motions 132-26-VNC, 133-26-VNC and 134-26-VNC will be as individual items while a single vote will be taken on Motion 135-26-VNC and 136-26-VNC.

Motion 132-26-VNC

The VNC Board approves the August 2026 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER). (see supporting document)

VOTE:

15: Yes (GP, HF, EM, FS, JS, JF, JG, KL, LR, RS, SM, TH, YG, NR, DF)
0: No
0: Abstain
1: Ineligible (SH)
5: Absent (TB, MM, SMoss, AB, CB)

Motion passes.

Motion 133-26-VNC

The VNC approves the following allocations of the 2025-2026 Carryover of \$4,218.19: \$1,400 to Neighborhood Purpose Grants, \$1,418.19 to Election Promotion, \$1,400 to Outreach. (see supporting document)

VOTE:

Moved by Gary Pearl, Seconded by Jason Sugars

15: Yes (GP, HF, EM, FS, JS, JF, JG, KL, LR, RS, SM, TH, YG, NR, DF)

0: No

0: Abstain

1: Ineligible (SH)

5: Absent (TB, MM, SMoss, AB, CB)

Motion passes.

Motion 134-26-VNC

The VNC approves an NPG in the amount of \$3,914.76 to plant a total of 29 trees on multiple streets in Venice including on Oakwood Broadway: (at Broadway Elementary School), Westminster Avenue (near Oakwood Park), Indiana Ave, and in East Venice: Indiana Court, Courtland Ave and Glyndon and any necessary budget adjustment. (see supporting document).

VOTE:

Moved by Erica Moore, Seconded by Ted Henderson

11: Yes (HF, EM, FS, JS, JF, JG, KL, LR, TH, YG, NR)

3: No (GP, RS, SM)

1: Abstain (DF)

1: Ineligible (SH)

5: Absent (TB, MM, SMoss, AB, CB)

Motion passes.

(NOTE: **Motions 135-26-VNC and 136-26-VNC to be voted on as a group/single item**)

Motion 135-26-VNC

The VNC Board approves the purchase of a laser printer, paper and cartridge to be use by the VNC Secretary for printing Board agendas and supporting documents, the cost not to exceed \$350. The printer is subject to approval by the NC Funding Department of an equipment agreement. (see supporting document)

Motion 136-26-VNC

The VNC Board approves the purchase of 4 Banner Patches announcing the Tsunami Faire, sponsored by the VNC, and Tsunami Walking Drill occurring in Fall 2026 or Spring 2027. These patches will be affixed to our reusable VNC branded banners and placed in highly visible Venice locations such as Oakwood Recreation Center, Penmar Park, The Palm Trees at Abbot Kinney/Venice Boulevard and Westminster Park or other locations within that proximity. Total costs including additional duct tape not to exceed \$295.00.

VOTE on amendment to add “sponsored by the VNC” after “the Tsunami Faire”:

15: Yes (GP, HF, EM, FS, JS, JF, JG, KL, LR, RS, SM, TH, YG, NR, DF)

0: No

0: Abstain

1: Ineligible (SH)

5: Absent (TB, MM, SMoss, AB, CB)

Amendment passes.

VOTE on main motion, as amended:

12: Yes (GP, HF, EM, FS, JS, JF, JG, KL, LR, RS, YG, NR)

2: No (SM, TH)

1: Abstain (DF)

1: Ineligible (SH)

5: Absent (TB, MM, SMoss, AB, CB)

Motion passes.

B. CONSENT CALENDAR

NOTE: CONSENT CALENDAR — voted on as a single agenda item. Any board member or stakeholder may offer good cause as to why an item on the consent calendar should be removed and addressed as a separate agenda item prior to the end of the meeting. Pursuant to VNC Standing Rule 14, "The Chair shall have sole discretion to determine what constitutes good cause." All Board Member requests for removal must have been received prior to the meeting per previously issued notice.

1. Motion to Waive VNC Recommendation, Without Prejudice

Motion 137-26-VNC

The Venice Neighborhood Council waives review of the following project, without prejudice:

431 Howland Canal (between Dell Ave & Eastern Canal)

DIR-2026-4327-CDP

Project Description: 90 sf addition to existing 2,085 sf SFD.

2. **238-240 Horizon Ave** (between Main & Riviera)

DIR-2026-2577-CDP-MEL-HCA

Project Description: 3rd story addition to existing duplex & new 2-story attached ADU in rear w/open floor below, on ground floor.

LUPC Vote: 7-1-0 (1 absent)

Motion 138-26-VNC

The Venice Neighborhood Council takes no action--neither approves nor denies—on the project at 238-249 Horizon Ave.

3. **643 Indiana Ave** (between 6th Ave & 7th Ave)

DIR-2026-798-CDP-MEL-HCA, ADM-2025-6395-CEX

Project Description: convert (E) attached garage into a 955 sf Junior Accessory Dwelling Unit (JADU) and convert (E) detached covered patio into a 235 sf Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU).

LUPC Vote: 8-0-0 (1 absent)

Motion 139-26-VNC

The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends the City's approval of the project at 643 Indiana Ave, as proposed, conditioned on planting of native plants and trees in the front yard and in the parkway.

4. **237 5th Ave** (north of Rose)

DIR-2026-2564-CDP

Project Description: 1st floor remodel & addition to existing SFD w/2nd floor loft addition & attic storage space

LUPC Vote: 8-0-0 (1 absent)

Motion 140-26-VNC

The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends the City's approval of the project at 237 5th Ave, provided drought-tolerant native landscaping is planted for as much of the on-grade exposed lot as possible.

5. **70 ½ Venice Blvd** (at Pacific Ave)

DIR-2026-3952-ADJ

Project Description: Request for relief to grant an existing over height 16'10" tall wall within a required side yard in the RD1.5 zone due to LADWP power lines.

LUPC Vote: 8-0-0 (1 absent)

Motion 141-26-VNC

The Venice Neighborhood Council recommends approval of the requested Zoning Administrator Adjustment pursuant to LAMC §12.28 to permit the existing increase in height and depth of the western exterior wall at 70½ Venice Blvd, as proposed, subject to all applicable City and LADWP requirements.

VOTE to remove 238-240 Horizon Ave from the Consent Calendar, to be heard at the next Board meeting:

Moved by Lisa Redmond, Seconded by Sarah Mahir

15: Yes (GP, HF, EM, FS, JS, JF, JG, KL, LR, RS, SM, TH, YG, NR, DF)
0: No
0: Abstain
1: Ineligible (SH)
5: Absent (TB, MM, SMoss, AB, CB)

Motion passes.

VOTE on Consent Calendar with removal of Item VI.B.2. 238-240 Horizon Ave:

9: Yes (GP, EM, FS, JF, KL, RS, TH, YG, DF)
5: No (HF, JS, JG, LR, SM)
1: Abstain (NR)
1: Ineligible (SH)
5: Absent (TB, MM, SMoss, AB, CB)

Motion passes.

C. TRAFFIC CONFLICTS ON TABOR COURT

Parking, Infrastructure and Transportation Committee

Committee Vote: 3-1-1

Motion 142-26-VNC

The Venice Neighborhood Council requests that LADOT consider the resolution of the traffic merging problem at Tabor Court and Venice Boulevard by the addition on Venice Boulevard of "Keep Clear" pavement markings.

D. Support for City Council Motion to Improve the Marvin Braude Bike Trail Through Venice Beach

Parking, Infrastructure and Transportation Committee

Committee Vote: 4-1-1

Motion 143-26-VNC

The Venice Neighborhood Council supports Councilwoman Traci Park's proposed motion to have City Council instruct the Department of Transportation, with the assistance from the Bureau of Engineering, Recreation and Parks Department and Los Angeles County Public Works, to report back in 30 days with an assessment of the cost, funding opportunities and resources needed to widen the Marvin Braude Bike Trail through Venice Beach in order to accommodate a pedestrian path in time for the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games. It further suggests that City agencies include in their assessment safety improvements to the Marvin Braude Bikeway between the beach and Oxford Avenue.

VOTE to table Agenda Items VI.C. and VI. D.:

Moved by Ted Henderson, Seconded by Gary Pearl

8: Yes (GP, FS, JS, JF, KL, TH, YG, DF)
5: No (HF, LR, RS, SM, NR)
2: Abstain (EM, JG)
1: Ineligible (SH)
5: Absent (TB, MM, SMoss, AB, CB)

Motion passes.

VII. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

VIII. ADJOURNMENT--the meeting was adjourned at 10:09 pm.