



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: September 18, 2026

Meeting Time: 11:00 AM Pacific Time

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

Contact: sarahwauters123@gmail.com, andreas.kemkes@venicenc.org

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, 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	P	Barry Campion	A
Isabelle Duvivier	P	Janin Paine	P
Eric Schiff	A	Sarah Wauters	P

1. Call to Order

- a. Approved minutes from 05/15/2026, ID moved, SRW seconded, approved 4-0-0
- b. Approved minutes from 08/21/2026, ID moved, SRW seconded, approved 4-0-0

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 - AK went to Parks and Rec meeting about astroturf in Pac Palisades. After much talking the board put the matter onto the consent calendar to approve the use of the astroturf. There were advocates from the industry there.



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- b. CFAC/NCSA Report – Isabelle Duvivier -
 - i. CFAC has made a formal complaint about Mariposa Gardeners, because they have caused considerable damage in the city to trees, including the trees in Elysian Park, City keeps reupping their contract – Mariposa came to apologize.
 - ii. Letter about overpolluting going around – changes to CEQA. Next time Isabelle will send CFAC letter.
 - iii. Tree Spacing guidelines – Marianne King sent a good letter.
 - iv. Lynette Kampe – revisions to the protected tree ordinance that are very good.
 - v. New City of LA guidelines will allow removals of 5 or less trees from public land without a public hearing before the Bureau of Public Works. It used to be 2 or less. Joanne says there is pushback.
 - vi. Michael Bircumshaw - wrote a well reasoned letter about CIP – Capital Improvement Project – What does it mean to treat a living organism? Letter placed in the meeting supplemental materials.
- c. LUPC Report - Sarah Wauters - Discussion of Al Fresco and how LUPC is now requiring the restaurants to plant trees.
- d. VVG Report – Isabelle Duvivier - SRW asks if VVG could go to Washington Blvd. and help on the permitting – SRW asks what estimate for number of hours to permit the carve outs on Washington Blvd.? Janin – can't make an estimate. Isabelle – meet at Cowsend next time. VVG starting swale at Gold's Gym. Lots of trees getting planted, working on Rose Estuary submittal
- e. PARC - Pollinator/Watershed Project – Janin Paine - Thornton between Pacific and ocean front walk – sold 30ml. – set back is large – 100 x 18 ft. of space – cactus park exists there now. Eleny at the BID has been talking to the owners – each storefront is a different artist – might be able to do a new project there. Diane Greenseid secured some funding from Trader Joe's planting – 400 to buy plants to continue PARC at Trader Joe's.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Changes to Committee Members - Discussion of new members Cadine Navarro and Diane Greenseid. SRW nominated Cadine to new membership - Diane is considering it. Motion to approve
- b. CF26-1050 support for David Lee's motion for changing tree planting guidelines
 - i. Discussion of the tree spacing
 - ii. Public comment - NA
 - iii. Committee discussion - Committee discussed and formulated the following CIS for passing by board:



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- iv. MOTION: The Venice Neighborhood Council supports the Council Motion CF26-1050 to review tree spacing guidelines with the goal of increasing the number of trees based on best science for maximizing the health of the trees, biodiversity and shade on Los Angeles city streets. Andreas Kemkes moved, Isabelle Duvivier seconded 5-0-0.

5. ADJOURN 12:45

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.