Venice Neighborhood Council

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

DEADLINE: Thursday November 12th at 12:00 PM
Applications should be returned via E-mail as described below and cc:ed to President@Venicenc.org

Elections will be held on November 17th at the Westminster Elementary School:
1010 Abbot Kinney. See our Website VeniceNC.org for more details.

Instructions:

Stakeholders (those who live, work or own real property within the VNC boundaries *) interested in applying for Communications Chair of the Venice Neighborhood Council (VNC) are requested to complete the following application and email to: (1) VNC Secretary (Secretary@VeniceNC.org), and (2) Rules & Elections Committee (Rules@VeniceNC.org) prior to **Thursday November 12th at 12:00 PM**

https://www.venicenc.org/committees/viewCommittee/Communications

Your application will be posted as a supporting document with the VNC Board Agenda, for review by the Board and the public (address, phone number and email address will be redacted). The VNC Board will select the new member at the **November 17th, 2026** Venice Neighborhood Council Board Meeting, to be held **in person**. Applicants are strongly encouraged to attend to introduce themselves and speak before the Board (representatives may not speak for you). ***Proof of stakeholder status must***

First name	**Last name**	**Phone**
Nico	Ruderman	[redacted]

Street address

[redacted]

City	**State**	**Zip**
Venice	CA	90291

I hereby certify that I wish to serve as Communications Chair of the Venice Neighborhood Council and that I am a Stakeholder within the boundaries of the VNC area.

Stakeholder signature Digitally signed by Nico Ruderman **Date** November 12, 2026

Valid Credentials—choose one of the following:

- CA Driver's License, CA ID Card, Passport, recent utility bill, most recent property tax bill, or current lease, with an address within the VNC boundaries *

- Business license, check, or pay stub, from a business within the VNC boundaries * * See VNC boundaries in VNC Bylaws (pg 6): https://www.venicenc.org/assets/documents/5/committee681e8e0ac8e9b.pdf

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COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR APPLICATION

Applicant: Nico Ruderman

1. Motivation

My main motivation is continuity. I served as Communications Officer from 2023 to 2025 and assisted with communications during the 2021 to 2023 term. Since then, I have trained each Communications Officer and the people serving as backups. At this point, I am the only person with working knowledge of all the systems, including the website, stakeholder email database, Google accounts, email accounts, AV inventory, and meeting setup. I am already doing much of this job, and any new appointee would need to be trained by me. I have no intention of running for Communications Officer next term, but I am willing to finish this term so these functions continue without interruption. I can step in immediately and use the remaining months to help the VNC establish reliable, professional hybrid Board meetings and prepare a clean handoff to the next Communications Officer.

2. Prior Service

I have served on the VNC Board since 2021 as an At Large Community Officer and as Communications Officer from 2023 to 2025. I also assisted with communications during the 2021 to 2023 term. I have served on the Administrative Committee several times since 2021, chaired the Ocean Front Walk Committee, served on the Venice Arbor Committee, and represented the VNC on the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils. I have attended VNC meetings since approximately 2012.

3. Related Experience and Responsibilities

My most relevant experience is serving as VNC Communications Officer and training the people who followed me. As explained in Answer 1, I already know the VNC website, stakeholder email database, Google accounts, email announcement system, Zoom procedures, and meeting equipment. In addition, I have more than 25 years of professional experience in communications, audio, technology, and live production. I own Spinrad Sound and work professionally as an A1 and AV Lead. I regularly manage complicated electronic systems and troubleshoot live and virtual meetings. This is what I do professionally, and I can take over the VNC systems immediately.

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COMMUNICATIONS CHAIR APPLICATION

4. Community Involvement

I have attended VNC meetings since approximately 2012 and have served on the Board since 2021. I have worked closely with residents, businesses, public officials, law enforcement, and community organizations throughout Venice. I have also worked collaboratively with surrounding neighborhood and community councils and built strong relationships across West Los Angeles. My work has included public safety, homelessness, parking, Ocean Front Walk, local businesses, government accountability, planting and preserving trees, and protecting Venice's history. I represent the VNC through WRAC and serve on the board of the Marina del Rey Rotary Club, where I chair the Environmental Committee.

5. Key Issues Facing Venice

The three critical issues that have historically faced Venice are public safety, homelessness, and protecting the character and economic health of our community. People suffering from addiction or serious mental illness need treatment, services, and accountability, not policies that leave them deteriorating on the street. We must support local businesses, address parking, infrastructure, and basic city services, and preserve Venice's history. In addition, we now face the enormous responsibility and opportunity of preparing for the 2028 Olympics. Venice will be front and center on the world stage. We need to make sure we are represented in a way that reflects our community and values and shows Venice as a safe, clean, welcoming, world-class community and one of the world's top tourist destinations.