

Venice Neighborhood Council
Discussion Forum Committee (DFC) - Focus on Children Initiative

Minutes: Advisory Meeting

January 14, 2019

5:30 – 7:30 PM, Abbot Kinney Memorial Branch Library

NEXT MEETING: Monday, February 11, 2019 (Abbot Kinney Memorial Branch Library, 5:30 – 7:30 PM).

Attending

Community Members: Jasmine Carey, Connie Clotworthy (Worthy Beyond Purpose Mindfulness for Kids); Ron Harris (Safe Place for Youth), Medina Goodman (parent and creative industries placement executive), Davida Persaud (SPARC), Rachel Bindman (Los Angeles Public Library, Venice Branch)

Meeting Organizers: Joelle Dumas (Director of Ecole Claire Fontaine), Joe Murphy (VNC Discussion Forum Committee Chair), Paul Davis (parent and architect)

Note: the following minutes are a distillation of free-form discussions held, and also feature points of discussion introduced by attendees in follow-up correspondence.

01 Visitors from the community were welcomed and introduced.

02 Discussion of how to initiate the DFC/Focus on Children database; Ron Harris mentioned an LA County Library on-line resource. Joe Murphy highlighted the existing DFC database in the VNC site. He will provide a link so those interested can look it up. Much information (current and historic) is available. A quote offered, regarding FOC's necessary organization phase: "Slow down. Create the Network!"

03 On the topic of services the DFC/FOC effort could provide to the Venice youth community, establishing safer access paths to the Venice Public Library (Abbot Kinney Memorial Branch) was discussed. Crosswalks and/or signals are needed. All agree - this seems like a very good topic for future action.

04 Internship program possibilities:

- Rachel offered the library facility (perhaps Mar Vista Branch too) for an "Intern Career Day" program, in coordination with local schools
- The Venice Chamber of Commerce could be a resource for finding businesses that could host interns
- Internship-hosting businesses and agencies, artists, etc. could also be written to and approached in person by neighborhood, for example, Abbot Kinney
- Local schools and social services agencies could be contacted in an effort to locate young people who might benefit from internships
- It is resolved that we will draft a motion on this effort, in order to solicit VNC support, and proceed.

05 A Parade: We are inspired by Madame Joelle's vision to believe that creating an annual Venice Children's Parade (suggested date: Valentine's Day?) would be quite compelling. FOC will advocate for adventure! Parade fits.

06 Adjournment

cc: File/NB