



Venice Neighborhood Council
PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294
www.VeniceNC.org
Email: info@VeniceNC.org



Joint meeting of Rules and Selections Committee and Board of Directors – Minutes

Meeting Date: 10/05/2021

Meeting Time: 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: Webinar online zoom meeting

Contact: Oliver.Fries@VeniceNC.org

Please click the link below to join the webinar:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86836652878>

Or One tap mobile :

US: +16699006833,,86836652878# or +12532158782,,86836652878#

Or Telephone:

Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

US: +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 929 205 6099 or +1 301 715 8592 or +1 312 626 6799 or 877 853 5257 (Toll Free) or 888 475 4499 (Toll Free) or 833 548 0276 (Toll Free) or 833 548 0282 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 868 3665 2878

International numbers available: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kdGgM8XMrk>

PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS

The public is requested to dial *9 on their phone if calling in or press the Raise Hand button if attending by ZOOM when prompted by the presiding officer, to address the Committee on any agenda item before the Committee takes an action on an item. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Committee's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Committee meeting. Public comment is limited to 60 seconds per speaker, unless adjusted by the chair officer of the Committee.

Virtual Board Meeting Rules

- Raise your hand (or when accessing by telephone, press *9) if you have a public comment only WHEN we get to that specific item.
- After you speak, please lower your hand.
- All panelists (board members) and attendees (public) will be muted until the administrator unmutes you for comment.
- Committee members will get one chance to speak for a max of 2 minutes per item.
- 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.

1. 5:00PM – Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 5:01pm. Present was Oliver Fries (OF), Daffodil Tyminski (DT), CJ Cole (CC), Elizabeth Wright (EW), Ivan Spiegel (IS), James Murez (JM), Nick Antonicello (NA)

2. Roll Call

Oliver Fries (Chair)		Nick Antonicello	
George Francisco		Elizabeth Wright	
Daffodil Tyminski		Ivan Spiegel	
CJ Cole		James Murez	

3. Review, Comment and Adopt Minutes from prior meeting

Meeting Minutes - <https://www.venicenc.org/ncfiles/viewCommitteeFile/23394>

- JM moved to approve, DT seconded.

-Motion passes 5-1-0 OF,CC,EW,IS,JM//NA

4. PUBLIC COMMENT – non-agenda items related to Rules and Selections Committee only

Old Business: (carried over from prior meetings)

5. President is *ex-officio* (Jim Murez)

a. Item for discussion and possible action: This motion was presented at the previous VNC Board meeting and was sent back to committee for further discussion and re-wording. I have added to the motion that this new rule will not be in conflict with the Bylaws, and more specifically section 1(F) which indicates that no Board member shall be on LUPC committee unless they are the chair of the LUPC committee.

b. Public Comment

c. Committee Discussion

d. Motion: to approve the following addition to the standing rules: “President is an *ex officio* member of every committee so long as, in so being, the President’s membership does not conflict with the Bylaws, for example, as is the case with LUPC.”

e. Standing Rules - <https://www.venicenc.org/ncfiles/viewPageFile/3238>

**i. Corrected standing rules website - EW pointed out bylaws site was on twice
[-https://www.venicenc.org/ncfiles/viewPageFile/232](https://www.venicenc.org/ncfiles/viewPageFile/232)**

f. Bylaws - <https://www.venicenc.org/ncfiles/viewPageFile/3238>

**-DT motioned and EW Seconded – Motion passed, Amended motion fails
OF,EW,IS,/DT,CC,NA//JM**

- IW motioned to amend the motion, EW seconded: “President is an *ex officio* member of every committee so long as, in so being, the President’s membership does not conflict with the Bylaws, for example, as is the case with LUPC. Committee can override *ex-officio* and make the president full voting member of their committee.”

-CJ suggests we make a bylaws change or addition – if president is *ex-officio* then he is a non-voting member, but committee chair can make him a voting member.

- EW if president is member of any committee or every committee with exception of LUPC than he can't automatically qualify for quorum. Chair can say I want you to participate as part of the quorum, that is the difference.
- NA made motion to table, there was no second, motion to table fails
- NA made motion to adjourn, there was no second, motion to adjourn fails.
- Vote was taken on original motion. Motion passed 4-2- 1
OF,DT,EW,IS,/CC,NA//JM

6. Joint Meetings Between Committee and VNC (Jim Murez)

- a. Item for discussion and possible action:** This motion was presented at our last committee meeting and was tabled for further discussion at the next committee meeting.
- b. Public Comment**
- c. Committee Discussion**
- d. Motion: to approve the following addition to the standing rules:** Discussion and/or possible action to approve the following addition to the standing rules "All Committee meetings are joint meetings between the Committee and the VNC Board of Officers."
 - CC made motion to bring to the floor, JM, seconded.
 - Motion passed 5-1-1. OF,CC,EW,IS,JM/DT/NA (present)

7. Committee comments regarding bylaws corrections, clean ups, and administrative corrections.

NEW BUSINESS

8. Request for Revision of Proposed Amendment to DONE Code of Conduct (WRAC)

- a. Item for discussion and possible action:** This was presented by Westside Regional Alliance of Councils. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) is reviewing amendments presented by Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) granting additional discretion for determining. guilt and imposing penalties. They are recommending that the Workplace Equity Policy be incorporated into the new amendments proposed. See <https://westsidecouncils.com/motion/request-for-revision-of-proposed-amendments-to-done-code-of-conduct/>
- b. Public Comment:**
- c. Committee Discussion:**
- d. Motion:** Whereas, the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners has before it consideration of proposed amendments to the Code of Conduct Policy applicable to Neighborhood Council Board and Committee Members;

Whereas, the existing Code of Conduct applicable to Neighborhood Councils should be amended to create a greater enforcement mechanism; and

Whereas, the proposed amendments to the Code of Conduct submitted by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment ("DONE") to the Board of

Neighborhood Commissioners (“BONC”) grant too much discretion to DONE in determining guilt and imposing penalties.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that:

BONC is advised against approving the proposed amendments to the Code of Conduct in their current form;

The [_____] NC/CC] requests that the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, in consultation with an ad hoc group of Neighborhood Council members, revise the proposed amendments to ensure they afford Board and Committee members adequate due process rather than granting the Department sole discretion to immediately suspend a Member based on an alleged violation of applicable rules;

Any amendments to the Code of Conduct must take into account varying degrees of conduct when considering suspension and appropriate penalties, if warranted;

The Code of Conduct shall require that the minimum correction necessary to address any issue be used;

The Workplace Equity Policy shall be incorporated into the proposed amendments to the Code of Conduct only if formally adopted by the City prior to the Neighborhood Council City Department Review process, and in the alternative, the Code of Conduct shall incorporate the City’s Workplace Violence Policy and Guidelines.

- JM motioned to bring to floor, EW second

- Motion passed 7-0-1 OF,DT,CC,NA,EW,IS,JM,/0/0

9. Request for Ballots to all registered Voters for VNC elections (Nick Antonicello)

- a. **Item for discussion and possible action:** That the current voting qualifications fail to take into consideration the fact the LA City Clerk already has in possession all of the duly registered voters in the neighborhood of Venice and that this voter file serve as the primary stakeholder list for voting. And that all non-registered voters such as property owners, employees and such apply for a ballot and be vetted by the LA City Clerk's Office. To ask registered voters to apply for a ballot is a text book example of voter suppression when asking for information the Clerk already possesses. That the board endorse this voter policy change and make these voter qualifications before the 2023 VNC election.
- b. **Public Comment:**
- c. **Committee Discussion:**
- d. **Motion:** to have the City of Los Angeles, beginning with the 2023 Neighborhood Council elections, change the City’s voting procedures so that all registered voters will be mailed a ballot automatically, all registered voters will be able to vote by mail or in person at an approved polling station during the in-person voting

processes currently in place, and that all non-registered voting stakeholders continue to adhere to the process of qualification and approval by the LA City Clerk's Office.

10. Direct Appointment by VNC President Require Advice and Consent of the Full Board (Nick Antonicello)

- a. Item for discussion and possible action:** That all "direct" appointments by the President of the Venice Neighborhood Council require an advice and consent roll call vote of said appointment and that such appointee be required a majority vote of the council. Furthermore, that all direct appointments by the President must require a "statement of candidacy" by the nominees along with any resume or other information that will assist the full board in making an informed decision.
- b. Public Comment:**
- c. Committee Discussion:**
- d. Motion:** to amend the VNC by-laws to require that all positions currently filled at the discretion of the President be filled by a majority vote of the VNC Board after candidates submit a "statement of candidacy" by the nominee(s) along with any resume or other information that will assist the full board in making an informed decision.

11. Identification of stakeholders/speakers during public comment or participation (Nick Antonicello)

- a. Item for discussion and possible action:** Identification of stakeholders/speakers during public comment.
- b. Public Comment**
- c. Committee Discussion**
- d. Motion:**

WHEREAS, the current identification of a speaker during VNC meetings and their corresponding committees is non-existent;

WHEREAS, valuable time and energy is wasted due to the lack of identification in which many cases the comment is off topic and for the most part, irrelevant; and

WHEREAS, speakers have an obligation to identify who they are for the record and if they have standing as a stakeholder.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Venice Neighborhood Council require that all speakers and stakeholders address the board or committee with a first and last name as well as an address as part of the public record.

12. Amendment to Standing Rule #14 (Michael Jensen)

- a. Item for discussion and possible action:** Request: I propose the Rules and Election committee amend VNC Standing Rule #14 pursuant to the attached redline document.

b. Public Comment

c. Committee Discussion

- d. Motion: to approve the following addition to Standing Rule No. 14 as follows:**

Consent Calendar items are motions of Standing Committees considered to be routine by the Administrative Committee. Board approval of the Consent Calendar constitutes approval of all motions contained therein. There will be no separate discussion of Consent Calendar motions unless a Board Member or a stakeholder requests removal of the item from the Consent Calendar, in which case the Chair will place the item on the regular

agenda where the Chair deems appropriate. Anyone wishing to contest a Consent Calendar item on the Board agenda must appear in person at the Board meeting and state to the Board good cause for the item to be removed from the Consent Calendar. The Chair shall have sole discretion to determine what constitutes good cause.

*underlined items indicate changes

-CC motioned to bring to the floor, JM seconded

- IS motioned to amend the motion to, CC seconded: Consent Calendar items are motions of Standing Committees considered to be routine by the Administrative Committee. Board approval of the Consent Calendar constitutes approval of all motions contained therein. There will be no separate discussion of Consent Calendar motions unless a Board Member *or a member of the public* requests removal of the item from the Consent Calendar, in which case the Chair will place the item on the regular agenda where the Chair deems appropriate. Anyone wishing to contest a Consent Calendar item on the Board agenda must appear in person at the Board meeting and state to the Board good cause for the item to be removed from the Consent Calendar. The Chair shall have sole discretion to determine what constitutes good cause.

-Amendment passes 5-1-0 OF,CC,EW,IS,JM/NA

-Revised Motion passes 5-1-0 OF,CC,EW,IS,JM/NA

13. Comments on items not on the agenda for consideration

ADJOURN - *-Meeting is adjourned – 6:37pm*

PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS: The public is requested to fill out a “Speaker Card” to address the Neighborhood Committee on any agenda item before the Neighborhood Committee takes action on an item. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Neighborhood Committee jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Neighborhood Committee is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Neighborhood Committee meeting. Public comment is limited to **1** minute per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer.

POSTING: In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board members in advance of a meeting may be viewed at Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd; and at our website by clicking on the following link:www.venicenc.org, or at the scheduled meeting. *You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City’s Early Notification System at www.lacity.org/your-government/government-information/subscribe-meetings-agendas-and-documents/neighborhood.* In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact Vice President, Daffodil Tyminski daffodil.tyminski@venicenc.org.

RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS: For information on the VNC’s process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the VNC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and our website www.venicenc.org.

DISABILITY POLICY: 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 Vice President, Daffodil Tyminski daffodil.tyminski@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 our website: www.venicenc.org 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 Vice President, Daffodil Tyminski daffodil.tyminski@venicenc.org.