



Venice Neighborhood Council
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Joint meeting of Rules and Selections Committee and Board of Directors – Minutes

Meeting Date: 11/02/2021

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:

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<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84097301463>

Or One tap mobile :

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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

2. Roll Call

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

Present at the meeting was OF, GF, DT, CC, NA, EW, IS, JM

3. Chair Report

OF has created a task force to clean up the bylaws and the standing rules which we will review for approval to be presented to the VNC rules. This will consist of GF, EW, CC. Sunset of the task force will be January 4th meeting for presentation of the changes.

4. Review, Comment and Adopt Minutes from prior meeting

Meeting Minutes - <https://www.venicenc.org/ncfiles/viewCommitteeFile/25341>

JM Motioned; GF seconded. Motion passes 7-1

OF, GF, DT, CC, EW, IS, JM/NA

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

No comments.

Old Business: (carried over from prior meetings)

6. 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.

Nick Antonicello withdrew the motion.

7. 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.

NA withdrew the motion.

8. 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.

NA withdrew the motion.

NEW BUSINESS

9. Establishment of the Public Safety Committee of the Venice Neighborhood Council (Nick Antonicello)

a. Item for discussion and possible action: Establishment of the Public Safety Committee.

b. Public Comment

c. Committee Discussion

d. Motion: WHEREAS, that the Public Safety Committee is an important component of the issues Venetians really want to discuss, THEREFORE, that the Public Safety Committee be elevated to the status as a standing committee of the Venice Neighborhood Council.

NA withdrew the motion.

10. Election of Parliamentarian (Nick Antonicello)

a. Item for discussion and possible action: Discussion regarding elected vs. appointed Parliamentarian

b. Public Comment

c. Committee Discussion

d. Motion: WHEREAS, the position of “member parliamentarian” of the Venice Neighborhood Council is a direct appointment by the President, and WHEREAS, the current appointment process lacks any accountability, transparency or process as the full board has no input, and WHEREAS, even as a direct appointment the process fails to offer the full board a resume, interview or vetting process, and WHEREAS, the “member parliamentarian” works for the entire board and not just the President, and to ensure an independent and unbiased parliamentarian that the position be elected and not appointed, WHEREAS, the BY LAWS under Article 12 calls for an “unbiased” Parliamentarian but the process fails to address that reality, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the position of Parliamentarian become a directly elected position voted upon by Venice stakeholders in the June 2023 election.

NA withdrew the motion.

1. Comments on items not on the agenda for consideration

Recommended that we require people to withdraw motions before meetings if they know that they will be withdrawn.

2. ADJOURN

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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.

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