



Venice Neighborhood Council

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



Discussion Forum Committee Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, June 3, 2014 from 7:00 to 9:00 PM

Canal Club (310-823-3878)
2025 Pacific Avenue (near North Venice Boulevard)
Venice, California 90291
No Host Refreshments Available

"Given that each of us lives in a different world, what can we do to minimize misunderstandings?"

Agenda

[140603VNCDiscussionForumMeetingAgenda.pdf](#)

7:00 Call to Order

Public Comment on items not on the agenda
DFC Motions & DFC Long-Term Strategy Work (page 3)

7:20 Continuation of Discussion from the May 6, 2014 Meeting

JDM Status Report: The DFC now consists of nine members; Naomi Nightingale has agreed to be a member. The board unanimously passed the DFC **Focus on Children Vision Goal** motion at its May 20, 2014 meeting. As to our past focus on **Walkability**, recent state & local publicity indicates that the city & state are committed to moving in the right direction & are taking action to change LA from a predominantly automobile to a predominantly pedestrian orientation. I believe this means that our DFC role can now consist of making a motion to the board to endorse the many **Walkability** ideas the DFC has generated & to commit the VNC to encouraging & supporting any individual or group deciding to implement any of these ideas. As to the future DFC focus on critical Venice issues, suggestions surfacing at our March 4/April 1/May 6 meetings are:

- (i) **Nick Antonicelli:** Return fair share of LA taxes generated by Venice to Venice; (ii) **Donna Schubert:** Transportation – Transit Village (Parking/Transportation/Walkability); (iii) **Joe Murphy:** Economic Diversity - Housing; (iv) **Mehrnoosh Mojallali:** Public spaces; (v) **Joe Murphy:** Children; (vi) **DeDe Audet:** Flooding; (vii) **Nick Antonicelli:** Cityhood; (viii) **Abigail Myers:** Homeless & Housing & Mobility; (ix) **Joe Murphy:** Impact of **Brown Act** and **Public Records Act** on Neighborhood Councils; (x) **DeDe Audet:** Keeping tall buildings off of waterfront so that residents east of Venice can breathe healthy air (urban design).

DFC Dialogue Procedure

The below dialogue procedure has been used since the 140304 DFC Meeting & will continue to be used in future DFC meetings. This ongoing multi-meeting dialogue enables the DFC to routinely and continuously identify, review, refine, and improve upon the DFC focus on long-term complex issues. **JDM** is providing sample responses to the below questions as a guide to using this DFC Dialogue Procedure.

What do you consider to be the single most important issue facing the Venice Community?

JDM Economic Diversity – ie: more less-expensive housing

Why do you believe that this issue is critical to the future of the Venice Community?

JDM It's either more less-expensive housing or continuing the current pace of character-eroding gentrification

What are the obstacles to resolving this issue?

JDM Land-use & other laws which prevent or discourage the creation of more less-expensive housing in Venice

Time to raise & clarify misunderstandings.

[As needed at this or future DFC meetings where misunderstandings surface in discussions]

How can the DFC use its limited resources to help the Board address these long-term issues?

JDM Prioritize a long-term DFC focus on identifying how the land-use and other laws are preventing, or are being used or interpreted to prevent or discourage, the creation of more less-expensive housing in Venice and make suggestions on how these roadblocks can be overcome

9:00 Adjourn

DFC Members

DeDe Audet daudet@ca.rr.com	Joe Murphy joedmurphyvnc@ca.rr.com	Naomi Nightingale SOAIM3@aol.com
Donna Schubert dlschubert@aol.com	Mark Mack Mark@MarkMack.com	Nick Antonicello nacount@aol.com
Ira Koslow ikoslowvnc@ca.rr.com	Mehrnoosh Mojallali mehrnoosh@mehrnoosh.com	Nicolas Hippisley-Cox hippisley@earthlink.net

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 the Venice Library, 501 S. Venice Blvd.; Oakwood Rec Center, 767 California Street; The Venice Ale House, 425 Ocean Front Walk; Groundworks Coffee, 671 Rose Ave; Beyond Baroque, 681 Venice Blvd.; Penmar Park & Rec Center, 1341 Lake St.; and at our website by clicking on the following link: <http://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 joedmurphy@ca.rr.com.



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Minutes of Prior DFC Meetings

5/1/2012 & 6/11/2012 & 7/11/2012 & 8/11/2012 Formation & decision to focus on VNC Walkability Vision Goal ■ 9/11/2012 How can we encourage the residents and visitors of Venice to get out of their cars and spend more time enjoying our community as pedestrians? ■ 10/2/2012 How would we group the ideas from our last meeting into categories that illustrate the primary positive qualities that embody our vision of walkability in Venice? ■ 11/6/2012 & 12/4/2012 We have spent several sessions discussing Walkability and it is time to plan how we will complete work on this topic and report back to the VNC. Questions considered were:

Product: What will report cover and how will it be organized?

Process: What work needs to be completed and who will take responsibility for each piece?

Schedule: What are main tasks we need to complete going forward and when will each one be due?

■ 1/8/2013 At Sarah Dennison's suggestion, Ilaria Mazzoleni, an architect who focuses on sustainable ideas for the built environment, shared insights learned from research work on bike-sharing and related topics accomplished with her graduate and undergraduate students at SCI-Arc – a presentation which stimulated intense pragmatic discussion on how to pedestrianize urban communities. ■ 2/5/2013 & 3/5/2013 Discussion of Plan for Presentation to Board & how to implement walkability ideas received. ■ 4/2/2013 & 5/7/2013 & 6/11/2013 & 7/2/2013 & 8/6/2013 & 8/20/2013 Preparation & Delivery of Presentation to Board: (i) Venice Walkability Study Venice Bike-Sharing Study Component; (ii) Additions to VNC Walkability Vision Goal Ideas Matrix. ■ 9/3/2013 Debriefing of Presentation to Board & Discussion of future DFC options. ■ 10/1/2013 & 11/5/2013 Discussion of the Modus Operandi (MO) of the DFC. ■ 2/4/2014 Discussion of the Modus Operandi (MO) as presented by the DFC Chair. ■ 3/4/2014 Unanimous adoption of Focus on Children Vision Goal motion & of motion recommending consolidation of Parking/Walkability/Transportation (mobility) issues into one VNC Committee; discussion per above agenda continued to 4/1/2014 meeting. ■ 4/1/2014 & 5/6/2014 Discussion per above agenda continued to 6/3/2014 meeting. ■ 6/3/2014 TBD

VNC Vision Goals

VNC Standing Rule 20 adopted unanimously by the Board on April 21, 2009 & amended unanimously by the Board on May 20, 2014 to insert the Focus on Children Vision Goal

To stimulate the vitality of the VNC, the Board and VNC Committees are encouraged to consider the below VNC Vision Goals in their deliberations.

Although the VNC is a political body, and inevitably it may become embroiled in issues that divide the community, these goals are designed to promote a more proactive, collaborative vision for VNC Committees to include in their deliberations as they formulate recommendations for Board consideration. The intent is to create a working framework of integrated strategies capable of achieving, over time, broader consensus and increased:

Focus on Children

Consider strategies that promote & expand opportunities for children to experience direct meaningful involvement in all aspects of the social and economic and cultural activities of the Venice Community. Include this Focus on Children as an integral part of the consideration of strategies in all of the below Vision Goals.

Participation

Consider strategies that encourage & facilitate broader involvement of stakeholders, major organizations, community groups, and government institutions, etc.

Walkability

Consider strategies that reduce the use of cars and that promote alternatives such as walking, skateboarding, biking & bike racks, circulation systems (trolleys), park & ride rather than additional parking, street-narrowing/sidewalk widening, walk/bike/skateboard lanes separated from traffic, easier neighborhood pedestrian access to commercial stores, etc.

Diversity

Consider strategies that encourage & facilitate realistic recommendations designed to increase economic diversity, including affordable housing, etc.

Creativity

Consider strategies that promote the arts, encourage & facilitate creativity. This can apply to architecture, public art, social events (neighborhood gatherings/street movies/theatre/dance/pottery/...), etc.

Collaboration

Consider strategies that encourage & facilitate 'level playing fields' for collaborative negotiation; opt for procedures & policies that 'promote flexibility & dialogue' over 'reacting defensively to rigid criteria', facilitation/mediation training, etc.

Brainstorming

Consider strategies that encourage & facilitate exploring of non-traditional options for achieving shared objectives, etc.

Upcoming DFC Meetings

(1st Tuesday of each month unless otherwise notified)

7/1/2014 - 8/5/2014 - 9/2/2014 - 10/7/2014 - 11/4/2014 - 12/2/2014



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Agenda

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7:00-7:20 Discussion & Possible Action (DFC Motions & Long-Term Strategy Work)

➤ DFC Motions:

- a. **Request to Board to Adopt the Below Motion Renewing the Discussion Forum Committee:**
The Venice Neighborhood Council Board approves the renewal of the Ad Hoc Discussion Forum Committee with the following Mission Statement as approved by the Administrative Committee:

The Ad Hoc Discussion Forum Committee mission is to provide a monthly forum for discussion of long-term matters affecting the Venice Community within the context of the VNC Standing Rule 20 VNC Vision Goals adopted unanimously by the Board on April 21, 2009 and amended unanimously by the Board on May 20, 2014 to insert the Focus on Children Vision Goal.

Action: Motion was <passed/continued/amended by vote of #pro/#con/#abs>

- b. Request to Board to Adopt the Below Motion <>:

Action: Motion was <passed/continued/amended by vote of #pro/#con/#abs>

➤ DFC Long-Term Strategy Work:

- a. **Summary of Discussion of Strategies for Presentation to Board Regarding Amendments to VNC ByLaws:**

- ✚ Staggered 4-year terms
- ✚ DFC → Standing Committee (LUPC framework?)
- ✚ Incorporate VNC Vision Goals into VNC Mission

Action: Request to time to present & for Comment/Advice/Information from VNC Committees & Other Forums/Individuals <passed/continued/amended by vote of #pro/#con/#abs>

- b. **Summary of Discussion of Strategies for Presentation to Board Regarding <>:**

- ✚ <>
- ✚ <>
- ✚ <>

Action: Request to time to present & for Comment/Advice/Information from VNC Committees & Other Forums/Individuals <passed/continued/amended by vote of #pro/#con/#abs>