



Venice Neighborhood Council



PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / www.VeniceNC.org
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Joint Board & Discussion Forum Committee Meeting Agenda

Monday, January 6, 2020 from 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM

Venice-Abbot Kinney Memorial Branch Library (310-821-1769), 501 Venice Boulevard, Venice, California 90291

Focus on Children

5:30 **Call to Order - Approval of Outstanding Minutes and Agenda**

5:31 **Introductions, Announcements, Public Comment on items not on the agenda**

5:35 **Consideration and possible adoption of the following motion(s):**

5:35 **▪ Revised version of motion seeking support for Venice Moms:**

Whereas, the DFC's Focus on Children Committee supports the efforts of Regan Kibbee, moderator of the Venice Moms email group (at Groups.io) and creator of the www.VeniceMoms.com website, to provide parents a forum to connect with one another in parenting children:

It is therefore requested that the VNC Board adopt the following motion:

The VNC Board is supportive of Venice Moms - a not-for-profit online community for local families to share information, resources, parenting support, and opportunities to connect, since 2002 - and thereby authorizes it to use the VNC Logo in its online and offline publications and to distribute said publications at VNC events and meetings.

▪ Support for Connections for Children:

Whereas, the DFC's Focus on Children Committee supports the efforts of the non-profit organization, Connections for Children, to provide the Venice community with quality child care resources:

It is therefore requested that the VNC Board adopt the following motion:

The VNC board is supportive of Connections for Children - a non-profit child care resource and referral agency working to build a stronger future for children, families, and communities through quality child care resources, education and guidance - and thereby authorizes it to use the VNC Logo in its online and offline publications and to distribute said publications at VNC events and meetings.

▪ Presentation to Board of progress of Youth Internship Program:

Whereas, the work of the DFC's Youth Internship Program has progressed to the point where it is appropriate to update the Board of its progress:

The VNC board provides 5 minutes to hear the progress of the Youth Internship Program.

5:40 **Initiative Updates & Presentations, Discussion**

5:40 **▪ Initiative Updates & Presentations**

- Paul Davis: Youth Internship Program
- Joelle Dumas: Valentine's Day Children's Parade to inundate our streets with love – backpacks/curbcuts
- Mehrnoosh Mojallali: Improved Library Access for Young Pedestrians

6:00 **▪ Discussion Topics/Questions – building on Needs Assessment Survey**

- ✦ What do you think should be the priorities of this committee?
- ✦ Homelessness is a major and central issue in our community. Is there something constructive that this committee is uniquely-positioned to do?
- ✦ The Venice Neighborhood Council Bylaws enable young adults to become elected members of its Board of Officers and voting members/ chairs of its various committees – and to create new committees – and to be otherwise involved in its various functions and government-related activities. To date, very little has been done to encourage such involvement. Is this something this committee is uniquely-positioned to do?
- ✦ Worthy Beyond Purpose is dedicated to providing children with mindfulness experiences. Should we take time to explore in greater depth what this entails and whether this committee is uniquely-positioned to, in a constructive manner, enable broader community use of this model?

6:45 **▪ Contribution of Topics/Questions &/or Motions for next meeting agenda**

7:00 **Adjourn. Next meeting will be 5:30pm Monday, February 3, 2020 at the Venice Library**

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Joe Murphy joemur@gmail.com	Joelle Dumas ecoleclair@aol.com	Mehrnoosh Mojallali mehrnoosh@mehrnoosh.com
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Discussion Forum Committee Mission Statement

Provide a monthly forum for discussion of long-term matters affecting the Venice Community within the context of the VNC Vision Goals*

*The VNC Vision Goals were adopted unanimously by the Board on April 21, 2009 as Standing Rule 20 and amended unanimously by the Board on May 20, 2014 to insert the **Focus on Children Vision Goal**. For further information about the DFC, contact its chair Joe Murphy at 310-305-1444 or at joedmur@gmail.com.

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.

PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS: The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Discussion Forum Committee on any agenda item before the Discussion Forum 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 Discussion Forum Committee's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Discussion Forum 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 Discussion Forum Committee meeting. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes 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; Venice Public Library, 501 S. 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 <https://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 joedmur@gmail.com.

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 Venice Neighborhood Council complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and does not discriminate on the basis of any disability. Upon request, the Venice Neighborhood Council will provide reasonable accommodations to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request by contacting Melissa Diner, Secretary at secretary@venicenc.org.