



Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / www.VeniceNC.org

Email: info@VeniceNC.org Phone: 310-421-8627

11/14/19 Homeless Committee Minutes

Meeting Date: Thursday, November 14, 2019

Meeting Time: 6:30 – 8: 00 pm

Meeting Location: Extra Space Storage, Community Room, 658 Venice Blvd., Venice CA 90291

Contact: Frank.Murphy@venicenc.org

1. 6:30 pm - Call to Order and Roll Call

Frank Murphy (Co-Chair)	present		
Charles Rails (Co-Chair)	present		
Brian Ulf	absent		
Mike Rapkin	absent		
Will Hawkins	present		
Liz Wright	present		
		Ira Koslow (ex-officio)	absent

2. 6:30 pm – ANNOUNCEMENTS introductions.

3. 6:45 pm - Items for Discussion

The purpose of the meeting was general discussion to enable setting goals and agendas for the committee. Soon after the meeting started, the room was full.

Comments pertaining to homelessness are noted below. I did not clearly hear people’s names, so I simply numbered to indicate a different person was speaking. Some spoke more than once.

What do you plan to do? What is your purpose? These were the leading questions.

1. It is important to service the whole community, not just the homeless.
2. People are homeless for many different reasons. The only definite common among the homeless is that they have no roof.
3. “NIMBY” is how one person described himself/herself.
4. Several points:
 - a. What is the make-up of homeless in Venice?
 - b. 47% of the CD11 homeless are in Venice
 - c. Focus has been on specific small issues rather than on the big picture to see how bad the problem is
 - d. Believes the count is wrong because of how it is done
 - e. No one knows exactly what the make-up is
 - f. If we have a better handle on make-up, we can better evaluate where they can go
5. Would like to ask LAHSA about their statistics



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6. Multiple points:

- a. Why should Venice have to pay for a national problem?
- b. The problem is bigger than what neighborly actions can solve

7. Multiple points:

- a. For a number of years, those making over \$1M have been taxed 1% of their income above that amount. That revenue has been restricted to address homelessness (Prop 63), and has never been spent
- b. There is no data base for how many shelter beds exist and where they are
- c. Half of the \$500,000/unit is for soft costs

8. Multiple points:

- a. Homelessness is the worst ever seen
 - b. Free needles are being provided by the Venice Family Clinic and are winding up in alleys, streets, beach
 - c. Does LAHSA tell homeless how to get free needles
 - d. Concern is that free needles may be encouraging/condoning drug use
 - e. Nationwide cost for housing is \$67 - \$100 per sq ft. This is 1/10 of what is being spent in LA
9. On the north side of route #60, there is an area full of abandoned trailer homes.
10. 10,000 units that existed in the 1970's were destroyed rather than upgraded to meet new earthquake standards
11. What is available right now to house individuals who really want to get off the street?
12. There is a database of beds
13. There are no conduct guidelines for homeless people, and there should be
14. Housing should be inland where land is cheaper
15. There should be a single goal, and all VNC committees need to unite with a single recommendation
16. The City should not allow any additional service providers in Venice. Homeless come here because this is where they can get services.

Everyone who had something to say got to say it.

The chair explained that there WILL be regular meetings. The dates and locations are not yet decided.

The meeting ended.

4. 8:00 pm - ADJOURN

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