

# Venice Neighborhood Council

Venice, CALIFORNIA

Land Use and Planning Committee

## **UNAPPROVED MINUTES**

October 3, 2007

Administrative Meeting

No Issues or Projects

Presented or Debated



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### **1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

LUPC members present: Challis Macpherson, Jim Murez, Jed Pauker, Ruthie Seroussi, Arnold Springer, Lainie Herrera, and Stewart Oscars. Susan Papadakis and Robert Aronson arrived late. Absent: Sylviane Dungan, Lainie Herrera, and Maury Ruano.

**Approval** of this agenda as presented. The agenda was approved by common consent.

### **2. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES**

Challis Macpherson reported that Minutes from the July, August and September meetings were made available for review by the LUPC members. After some discussion, it was decided that the Minutes for all three meetings would be approved at the beginning of the next LUPC meeting.

### **3. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None noted.

### **4. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None noted.

### **5. LUPC ADMINISTRATIVE**

Discussion began with Challis Macpherson's suggestion that the following blanket statement be adopted: "Land Use and Planning Committee /Venice Neighborhood Council acknowledge that this project is out of compliance with the Venice Coastal Zone Specific Plan; however it will have minimum impact on our community. Land Use and Planning Committee /Venice Neighborhood Council have no recommendation or prejudice, but reserve the right to hear this project at a later date." Ms. Macpherson and Jim Murez debated what information the Planning Department receives and the CNC list provides regarding development projects within the purview of the Venice Neighborhood Council; Mr. Murez stated that clarification of the information provided on the CNC list should be

37 obtained. It was agreed that this CIS boilerplate statement would be used only for projects  
38 for which a more formal stance will not be taken.

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40 Jim Murez referred to an upcoming Coastal Commission appeal of the Amuse Café and to a  
41 report written by Chuck Posner. Mr. Murez and Challis Macpherson commended the report  
42 writer. Mr. Murez will provide copies of the report to LUPC members.

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44 Challis Macpherson asked for a volunteer for the Whole Foods project at Rose and Lincoln.  
45 Arnold Springer agreed to take on the project. Ms. Macpherson stated that AXE Restaurant  
46 has reapplied for their permits; Jim Murez stated that the restaurant had applied incorrectly.  
47 Jed Pauker agreed to contact the restaurant owner and to determine, if possible, whether  
48 parking contracts for this restaurant exist. Arnold Springer asked if the process for a parking  
49 district can be started. Ruthie Seroussi stated that the proposal for a parking assessment  
50 district should be presented by Robert Aronson and Lainie Herrera. Arnold Springer and Jim  
51 Murez concurred that ways and means be explored to use funds contributed to the Venice  
52 Parking Fund. Ms. Seroussi agreed to draft a letter listing the steps to be taken to frame a  
53 resolution to the parking issue in Venice. Mr. Murez suggested that the VNC appeal any  
54 project to the Coastal Commission that comes before the VNC to request a parking variance.  
55 Mr. Murez advised that Ms. Macpherson sign in when she attends the October 17, 2007 AXE  
56 restaurant hearing; Ms. Macpherson will bring a copy of the letter written to the Zoning  
57 Administrator.

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59 (Taken out of order) Susan Papadakis referred to a summary she is compiling of work done  
60 and actions taken by LUPC members that may not have been captured in the LUPC  
61 Agendas or Minutes. Jim Murez suggested that each Staff Report should include the  
62 amount of time spent to compile the report.

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64 2324 South Boone Avenue (6 foot fence surrounding a pool)—this project will be assigned to  
65 Maury Ruano.

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67 526 East Broadway (6 foot block wall)—Jed Pauker will look at this one.

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69 Challis Macpherson will research a property with an 8 foot wall near her home.

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71 1305 South Abbot Kinney—change of use from an office to a restaurant; Stewart Oscars and  
72 Jim Murez will take this on.

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74 711 West Angeles Place—Stewart Oscars reported that the former structure has been  
75 demolished. David Assemblege is the contact for this problem.

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77 1517 South Linden—6 foot side and rear wall.

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79 235 South Main—interior remodel. Challis Macpherson noted that a Coastal Commission  
80 exemption is being requested. Jim Murez will research this property; Deron Laureno is the  
81 contact person.

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83 542 East Broadway—small lot subdivision.

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741 East Broadway; 720 East Brooks—Lainie Herrera will be asked to review these projects.

2329 McKinley—Jed Pauker has begun research on this issue.

Jim Murez reported that the Department of Public Works was awarded a grant to do a tree planting on Grand that has not yet been done; Mr. Murez will research and report back on this issue. Mr. Murez provided a brief explanation of Best Practice Management with regard to conversion of residential or office property to restaurant use.

417 Washington—Arnold Springer provided an update.

1702 Abbott Kinney—Arnold Springer will follow up on this property, regarding issue.

714 Hampton Drive—the developer, Rick Clemenson, needs a letter stating the decision rendered by VNC.

Stewart Oscars will report on a development project (not Heineken).

Jed Pauker provided copies of the Fences and Hedges report; Ruthie Seroussi discussed how the report should be reviewed. Mr. Pauker stated his preference to know for certain at which VNC meeting, October or November, the report will be presented. Mr. Pauker provided a précis of the report. Suggestions for revisions were made and discussed by LUPC members present. Ms. Seroussi stated that the Fences and Hedges Task Force will re-form for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and discussed plans for the Task Force efforts in 2007-2008.

There was discussion about a form to be provided to developers that are seeking LEEDS certification or to provide “green” aspects in the proposed developers. Jed Pauker will send a draft form; the form can possibly be reviewed for acceptance at an upcoming LUPC meeting.

Implementation of a LUPC e-mail security protocol was discussed. Ruthie Seroussi suggested that a disclaimer be added to outgoing e-mail intended only for LUPC members and the policy be articulated in the LUPC Policies and Procedures.

Susan Papadakis arrived.

Challis Macpherson referred to the LUPC Policies and Procedures; there was discussion about how to indicate approved changes.

Challis Macpherson reported that she had requested a By-Law change to include an additional four new LUPC members. Jim Murez suggested hiring an expediter to assist in gathering information.

Challis Macpherson referred to a discussion that took place between Venice stakeholders and the Planning Department without input from the Venice Neighborhood Council or LUPC.

131 A suggestion was made that consideration of a letter to the Los Angeles Planning  
132 Department be agendized at the next LUPC meeting.

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134 **6. PUBLIC COMMENT**

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136 **7. ADJOURNMENT**

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138 The meeting was adjourned by common consent.

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