

DRAFT
Grass Roots Venice Neighborhood Council

Board of Officers Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2006

1. Meeting was called to order by DeDe Audet at 7:25 pm

2. **Roll Call** by Phil Raider, 17 present including DeDe Audet, Colette Bailey, LJ Carusone, CJ Cole, Sylviane Dungan, Yolanda Gonzalez, Michael King, Linda Lucks, Challis Macpherson, Ingrid Mueller, Stan Muhammad, Richard Myers, Naomi Nightingale, Susan Papadakis, Dianna Pollard, Phil Raider, Mindy Taylor-Ross, Kelly S. Willis, Ivan Spiegel, Parliamentarian

Absent: Peter Force, Brett Miller, Rebecca Tafoya

3. **Approval of Minutes**

Move that of the minutes of the November 15, 2005 and December 13, 2005 board meetings, with corrections, be approved.

Moved by CJC, 2nd by LL

Motion carried 16-0-0

3-A. **Presentation by DWP**

Mr. Daniel Wei of the DWP spoke about the upcoming water main re-lining project which is proposed for the Venice Area and Marina. GRVNC will be advised when a contractor is picked and a contact number will be provided.

4. **Treasurers Report**

We have \$5,470 available in the city checking account, \$5,155.30 on our prepaid card, \$492.11 in petty cash and \$89,749.24 in unallocated funds.

Move that we accept the treasurer's report as presented.

Moved by CM, 2nd by YG

Motion carried 15-0-0

5. **Consent Calendar**

YG pulled 5A
DP pulled 5B
SM pulled 5C
CJC pulled 5G

Move that the balance of the consent calendar be approved.

Moved by CM, 2nd by CJC

Motion carried 16-0-0

A. Venice Blvd. Easements

David Buchanan, Letter is mute as the Coastal Commission has already taken action on this item. Is concerned that the Chair of the LUPC created a 3rd party communication to the CCC. Would like to see a rule made of interpreted to deal with this issue.

YG want more investigation of this various matter that has been referred to the City Controller for investigation.

NN this is an after the fact action.

PR the by-laws concerning the LUPC don't say that the LUPC reports only to the Board and to no others.

LL attended the CCC hearing, wants the procedural issue referred to Excom.

NN to speak on behalf of the board without board approval is inappropriate.

SD CM spoke on behalf of the LUPC, not the Board.

CM explained that she spoke about the LUPC motion and stated that it did not have Board approval.

MK this issue should go to the Excom.

RM we need to keep on topic.

CJC wants more info

DA called for a vote on the approval of the letter

Letter approved 13-2-1

B. Rooftop Structures

DP feels that restricting the number of roof top structures as proposed in the letter is too restrictive and wants greater latitude.

PR explained that the thrust of the letter to the planning department is needed to open the discussion and that this is not to make a rule.

DP wants the letter to go back to LUPC for refinement.

YG wants the latter to go back to the LUPC for refinement.

MK the issue is we need to refine tune the letter and that the initial need fro roof top structures was for safety access.

Move that the roof top structure letter be referred back to the LUPC to fine tune the language.

Moved by MK, 2nd by YG

Motion carried 15-1-0

C. Urban Retreat Hotel

SM wants to make the hiring of 10-15% of the work force being at risk to be a permanent position of any approved development.

Ira Koslow community has repeatedly object to height, wants arts component made permanent and better definition of solar. Thinks this sets a precedent.

Gail Rogers thinks developer is lying. Wants 35'

Suzanne Thompson wants a better design presented and more community discussion. Wants project denied.

CM wants this back at LUPC to include at risk condition.

Move that the project be referred back to the LUPC.

Moved by CM, 2nd by MK

Motion carried by 16-0-0

NN wants to know what the public comment process was re this project.

G. Lincoln Blvd CDO

Laura Silagi doesn't understand why the item was pulled from the agenda.

MTR would like to know CJC concerns. The CDO is already in process at the Council Office.

CJC doesn't know anything about this. Feels that there is a huge conflict of interest by some board members. Has questions about The VCC and what their mission is.

MTR has explained the CDO before and doesn't understand what's wanted...but explained it again.

David Ewing doesn't have much to say, previously supported by GRVNC & Cindy Miscikowski, and is going forward at the city level.

RM thought that VCC had done great outreach and supports the proposal.

LJC participated in Envision Venice and very much supports, and urges support

Move that pass item 5G, the Lincoln Blvd CDO as stated.

Moved by LJC, 2nd by MTR

Motion carries 14-1-1

6. Old Business, Report from the Chair

DA, YG will be surveying Venice Streets with LAPD & LAFD, please get your stuff out of the alleys on 2-8-07.

YG leave your stuff out it doesn't matter, city has \$250,000 allocated for street repairs of which we get to input up to \$100,000 for street and alley repairs. Report all potholes. Phone 1-888-524-2845.

DA DWP has an Memorandum of Understanding with the NC's, see the document at <http://www.ladwp.com/ladwp/cms/ladwp006764.jsp> please read and advise of any comments. DA & CM have attended 2 meetings. Planning Dept. preliminary document at <http://www.mouoversite.org/>

DA questioned the Board as to their understanding of the Committee of the Whole concept in Roberts Rules of Order

7. New Business

A. Budget, Finance & Fundraising Committee

CJC reported to the board as follows:

- i. Approve rolling the balances remaining in the 2nd quarter Budget Allocation into 3rd quarter Budget Allocation.
- ii. Approve the LUPC Budget Allocation Request dated 1/1/06.
- iii. Approve 3rd quarter trial program: \$1500 for taking & preparing the Board & EC minutes, \$580 for data entry/clerical services.
- iv. Approve \$1000 for purchase of business cards for Board members & committee chairs.
- v. Approve \$500 for purchase of ink cartridges & paper for committee chairs to use to print handouts on their personal computers.

Dennis Hathaway questions handing out printer cartridges, spending \$1000 for secretarial work and printing business cards. Wants more outreach. Wants the board members to print out cards on their home computers.

PR did not request the hiring of secretarial help.

LL wants materials distributed before meeting, thinks a secretary could help with this. All for hiring someone to help work get done on time.

SD also supports getting some help and getting more work done. Thinks business cards will help with outreach.

RM wants to get some help so we can devote more time for outreach. Wants to know if anyone in the audience will volunteer to help...no volunteers.

KSW thinks many of these items are actually outreach. City initially offered to print the cards. Do they still do this? Can we print small batches?

YG passes out her cards to get people to come to meetings

SD how fast can we get cards, doesn't want to wait for the city

SM wants brochures and stationary.

Move that we accept the Budget Committees recommendations.

Moved by MK, 2nd by LL

Motion carried 16-0-0

B. Executive Committee

Approve creation of an ad hoc Wi-Fi Services Committee with David Buchanan as Chair.

David Ewing wants to know what parameters for committee are.

Suzanne Thompson wants to know what David Buchanan's qualifications are.

RM knows that David has the background. The question at hand is to form committee or not.

Move that we approve creation of an ad hoc Wi-Fi Services Committee with David Buchanan as Chair.

Moved by RM, 2nd by NG

LL questioned sources of funding.

DB there are a variety of funds available. The City is funding projects like this already, and possibly the Venice Surplus fund.

Motion carries 14-0-1

C. LUPC

CM reports that the LUPC recommends that the board not approve the RAD project as presented.

Sherie Scheer lives within 500' radius supports the current plan, has plenty of open space including walk street.

Gail Rogers against the project, 5 buildings going up on AKB wants compliance with existing codes, including height, density, and traffic.

Suzanne Thompson opposes project wants site to remain in the public domain. Wants to replace Venice Pavilion on MTA site.

Naomi Glaberman opposes project, too dense and high, scale is too different from the rest of the neighborhood.

Rick Gunderson opposes height density wants developer to follow VSP.

Carmel Beaumont current plans haven't been shown to the community. Questions timing and opportunity for review. Too many questions un answered.

Lori Leboy opposes development, wants board to deny, thinks too much pressure from MTA. Wants board to develop a moratorium.

David Ewing wants to know what version of the plan we're looking at.

Jerry Neuman current zoning allows for 171 units by right. Project has changed over time. Re the 15 conditions of the Board. RAD will include an arts component. RAD has requested a traffic light, DOT won't allow. Mello act compliance is in place. Requested contractors to employ 20% at risk in an apprenticeship program. 35' height at perimeter moved other height to interior of project. Provided 3 pedestrian walk ways. All Parking on site.

Move to allow Mr. Neuman additional time to address the rest of the conditions.

Moved by NN, 2nd by DP

Motion carries 13-2-0

DA called for a show of hands by the public in favor and against the time motion.

NN withdraws motion. DP withdraws her 2nd

CJC wants to know if OK to question speaker.

IS notes the due to lack of public comment the previous motion is invalid.

LL this is embarrassing, thinks it's wrong to cut off speaker for project. Wants to table vote due to lack of time.

Move that we table the vote until we have time to review the entire project.

Moved by LL, 2nd by MK

CM Planning Commission is hearing this on January 26th.

PR people should attend LUPC hearing to know more about projects. If we don't take action on this tonight we'll look like a bunch of idiots. We'll loose the opportunity to present a decision to the Planning Commission.

CJC attended LUPC but still has questions. Want to hear more about project.

RM we've had lots of discussion want to vote on LUPC recommendation.

- Dante Cacace announced the vote tally, 91 votes in favor of seating Susan Papadakis, 10 no, 4 for other replacements. The bylaws revision tally is 90 in favor, 9 rejects and 6 no.

Motion to table fails 3-12-1

Move for approval of the LUPC recommendation not approve the RAD/MTA project as presented.

Moved by CM, 2nd by IM

LJC want to know the reason the LUPC made this recommendation.

SD, LUPC voted this way because the community and the committee didn't want a project with this height and density.

LL supports VSP but thinks that the inclusion of the low and workforce housing allows some latitude but the project isn't there yet.

MTR wants to know if project has changed since the Board last saw the project, and wants to know what the changes are.

Jerry Neuman the plans have changed and what you are seeing is current with the exception of the model.

MTR wants to know why they can't follow the guidelines.

MK the changes have actually made it worse. Too many cooks have spoiled this project and turned it into a camel. The architects are better than this.

Jerry Neuman, with regards to the 35' and the VSP we would be able to build 214 units with no community benefits. What we have done is provide 100 parking spaces for the public and neighbors, 17 very low and 17 work force housing units, the walk street, open space, retail all along main. Those have community benefit. Lowered the height from 56' to 35' perimeter, except on Main St, with a 45' interior height. 7' of the building is below grade.

SP a lot of the housing is below street level and is worried that the low income and work force housing will be there.

RM LUPC has had a lot of opportunity to vet this project and if you haven't made up your mind by now you haven't been paying attention. We need to have a vote.

Motion carries 14-2-0

Move that we table further motions and move straight to public comment.

Moved by RM, 2nd by KSW

LL wants to give OFW report

CB wants to make an announcement at public comment.

Motion carries 16-0-0

Ira Koslow the light on brooks and Main is a 3 way signal but no one knows. How do we get a sign?

Suzanne Thompson public comment shouldn't be at the end, agenda request form is confusing, thinks that the 50 copy requirement is onerous, thinks the Board is negligent in not taking up the OFW.

LJ Carusone date for the 5th annual Venice Carnivale is the 2nd Saturday in May.

Dennis Hathaway wants the Board to really study the bylaws proposals and to commend the Board on having materials available.

Damon Goldstein wants board to consider more senior citizen housing and wants to save memorial wall and more human scale development.

Naomi Nightingale Education Committee will meet Thursday 1-25-06 at the Venice Family Clinic, sign up sheet on the desk

RM erred in saying we would adjourn after public comment would like to hear OFW report.

8. Committee Reports

A.. Executive Committee

i. DA would like to call to the Boards attention to the new agenda request form. If you want something on the agenda fill out the form.

ii DA a grievance has been filed by Rick Selan and has been referred to the Rules & Election Committee

B. Ocean Front Walk Committee

LL Martin Luther King Rally accepting donations. Letter sent to Bill Rosendahl. 1/10/2005 meeting attended by 30 people good consensus the illegal vending has to go. #rd town hall meeting at Oakwood Park, televised, a new draft ordinance will be introduced at city hall. Many people in agreement on the issues. Ordinance will regulate and past court muster. Will modify noise and regulate vending. There will be controversy. Council will establish ad hoc committee to deal with ongoing issues and promote self regulation.

C. Bylaws Committee

LJC next meeting 1-23-06 at Extra Space Storage. Committee adopted plurality voting method. Stakeholder will be consistent with DONE. Live, work or owns property. New 14 district plan adopted similar to Silver Lake to make Rep more responsive to public. Committee will present a single set of bylaws for approval. Board officer will be elected at large with specific duties.

D. Disaster Preparedness Committee

CB would like to put on seminar at the town hall meeting 2-25-06, will have LAFD presentation. Next meeting at Vera Davis all districts need to be represented on 1-25-06

9. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn carried by acclamation at 10:04pm.