

# Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / www.VeniceNC.org Email: <u>info@VeniceNC.org</u> Phone: 310-421-8627



#### NEIGHBORHOOD COMMITTEE APPLICATION

#### **Contact Information:**

Qualifying Stakeholder Address (*Dirección*):

Print Name/Nombre el letra de Molde : _N	/lichael Stenger		
Mailing Address (if different):	Ctt. 1 Ct. d- d	Ciata / Fata da - 7th / Oddina Danial	
Mailing Address (if different).			
Street address / Dirección	City / Ciudad	State / Estado Zip/ Código Postal	
Contact Numbers:			
Phone (Day) / Teléfono (día) Phone (Evening) / Teléfono (tardé) Fax Number  Email / Correo Electrónico (very important)			
Specific Plan Sub-area where you live, work or own property and wish to represent (see Venice Specific Plan: <a href="http://venicenc.org/files/VenCoastal.pdf">http://venicenc.org/files/VenCoastal.pdf</a> section 2 for details):			
Sub-area: 9 (select number 1. Ballona Lagoon West Bank Subarea, 2. Ballona Lagoon (Grand Canal) East Bank Subarea, 3. Silver Strand Subarea 4. Marina Peninsula Subarea, 5. Venice Canals Subarea, 6. North Venice Subarea, 7. Oakwood-Millwood-Southeast Venice Subarea, 8. Oxford Triangle Subarea, 9. East of Lincoln Subarea), or other niche neighborhoods such as the committee recognizes			
I hereby certify that I wish to serve of Neighborhood Council and I am a St	•		
Stakeholder Signature/Firma _Micha	nel Stenger Date _12-9-12		
Questions:			



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Please limit your answers to the 5 questions below to 200 words or less each.

- 1) Please explain why you wish to serve on the Neighborhood Committee: I I believe the Neighborhood Committee plays an important role in the work of the VNC, I have served on the Committee since Novermber 2007, and have seen how useful it is in taking on local issues and achieving results. I wish to continue to be a part of this.this, particularly as an advocate for our schools. I volunteer with different organizations, and the Committee is an excellent venue to coordinate some of their activities, e.g., working with a fellow member who volunteers at the library to get children's books for the VNC's Great Toy Drive recently.
- 2) Please describe your previous and/or current neighborhood or community involvement: I have volunteered with many local groups over the last 20 years or so. For the past 15 years, my primary voluneerism has been at Walgrove Elementary school, as a tutor, fund-raiser, gardener, project organizer, et.al. I also help at the Mark Twain Middle School garden. I have served on the Neighborhood Committee for the past 5 years, under both the Lucks and Saltzberg regimes. I help out on the Venice Garden Tour and the Venice Art Walk each year. I also am a member of the Venice Chamber of Commerce.
- 3) In your opinion what are the three most pressing issues facing the Venice Community? First, I would say is the on-going issue of managing development. I think we need to stay more true to the Venice Specific Plan. For example, I see the explosion of activity on Rose Avenue. Too many businesses without adequate parking. The new restaurants and housing have made for too much congestion, between the autos, bicyclists, and pedestrians; it's become dangerous driving on Rose at night. Secondly, I would say is the issue of homelessness. I don't live near the beach, but friends who do and are generally sympthetic, have told me it is out of hand now. Finally, I fear we are losing the charm of some of our neighborhoods due to out-sized new construction. We need to do all we can to preserve this distinctive place called Venice.
- 4) The Neighborhood Committee is tasked with promoting awareness of available City resources and services by acting as a conduit between the Board and Venice neighborhoods, assisting in community outreach and bringing neighborhood issues to the attention of the Board.
  - What are your suggestions for effectively fulfilling this obligation? Because I am involved with several different Venice organizations, I am able to keep them in the loop as to what's happening. The area east of Lincoln should have three members due to it's large geographical size. (We have tried to recruit but so far without success). I am disappointed, though, by how many Venetians really don't know about the VNC.



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5)	Do you have a vision for Venice? If so, please describe: My vision for Venice continues to be a place with a spirit of community, where diversity is embraced, and the citizenry feels safe. I think there is a deep reservoir of talented and civic-minded people in Venice, and I would like to see us tap into this pool to achieve a better Venice.		
•	Please list all committees, groups, organizations schools churches, agencies, with nich you have regular communication. Walgrove Elementary school and the Friends		

Waal

**Chamber of Commerce.** 

Thank You for Volunteering to Help Our Community!

of Walgrove Booster Club. Mark Twain Middle School. Penmar Park director. Venice