



# Venice Neighborhood Council

PO Box 550, Venice, CA 90294 / [www.VeniceNC.org](http://www.VeniceNC.org)

Email: [info@VeniceNC.org](mailto:info@VeniceNC.org) Phone: 310-421-8627



## **Board of Officer Meeting Agenda** Westminster Elementary School (Auditorium) 1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd, Venice, 90291 **Tuesday, May 15, 2012 at 7:00 PM**

**BOARD MEETINGS:** The Venice Neighborhood Council holds its regular meetings on the third Tuesday of the month and may also call any additional required special meetings in accordance with its Bylaws and the Brown Act. All are welcome to attend.

**TRANSLATION Services:** Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de notificar a la oficina 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Si necesita asistencia con esta notificación, por favor llame a nuestra oficina 213.473.5391.

**POSTING:** The agenda and *non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board members in advance of regular and special meetings may be viewed* at Groundworks Coffee (671 Rose Ave.), Penmar Park (1341 Lake St), Beyond Baroque (681 Venice Blvd), the Venice Library (501 S. Venice Blvd), Oakwood Recreation Center (767 California St.), The Venice Ale House (425 Ocean Front Walk), and the VNC website (<http://www.venicenc.org>), or at the scheduled meeting. For a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact the VNC secretary at [secretary@venicenc.org](mailto:secretary@venicenc.org).

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** The public is requested to fill out a "**Speaker Card**" to address the Board on any Old or New Business item on the agenda and the Treasurer's Report. Comments from the public on these agenda items will be heard only when that item is being considered. Comments from the public on other agenda matters or on matters not appearing on the agenda but within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to two (2) minutes per speaker, unless modified by the presiding officer of the Board. No new speaker cards will be accepted once Public Comment has begun.

**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.

### 1. **Call to Order and Roll Call (7:00PM – 5 minutes)**

**A** The meeting is called to order in memory of Nathan Benderson, father of Bob Benderson and Jack Wright, husband of Liz Wright, VNC Elections Co-chair.

**B** Presentation of Certificate of Appreciation to outgoing LUPC member and former VNC Board member, Susan Papadakis

**ABSENT: Ivonne Guzman, Daffodil Tyminski, Clark McCutchen,**

### 2. **Approval of the Agenda (7:05PM – 5 minutes)**

**ACTION: Agenda Approved (JP/HH 11-0-2)**

**Beach & Harbor Report and DWP Report moved up to after Public Comment**

### 3. **Approval of Outstanding Board Minutes (7:10PM – 5 minutes)**

<http://venicenc.org/files/120417BoardMinutes.pdf>

**ACTION: Minutes Approved Unanimously (HH/JP 7-0-4)**

### **Announcements & Public Comment on items not on the Agenda**

*[5 speakers, no more than 1 minute per person – no Board member announcements permitted]*



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**Public Comment: Cara Robin & Marianne Tyler, Yolanda Gonzalez, Clarence Carter**

**4. New Business (7:20)**

*[Discussion and possible action.]*

- A** **Zip Line Proposal for Venice Beach, (60 minutes)** Amanda Seward, Matt Kline, co-chairs, on behalf of the VNC Visitor Impact Committee ([amanda.seward@venicenc.org](mailto:amanda.seward@venicenc.org), [Matt.kline@Venicenc.org](mailto:Matt.kline@Venicenc.org))

Project: <http://yousend.it/JqbhAV>

**Presentation: 20 Minutes**

**Public Comment: 20 Minutes**

**Board Discussion and possible action: 20 Minutes**

**MOTION: Whereas, the Venice Neighborhood Council (the VNC) welcomes the recent decision to place on hold plans to negotiate a contract for the installation of the "Great Observation Wheel" on Venice beach; and**

**Whereas, the VNC recognizes the need for the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks to generate additional revenues to adequately maintain the Venice Beach Park; and**

**Whereas, the proposed Greenheart/Flightlinez zipline attraction is perceived to be compatible with the historical values and vision of Venice Beach, due to the cultural live performances and experimental educational programs that will be a part of this attraction;**

**Therefore, be it resolved, the Venice Neighborhood Council (the VNC) recommends the installation of the Greenheart/Flightlinez (the Operator) zipline attraction with the following conditions:**

1. The permit issued to allow the attraction be for a trial period of not more than three months in 2012 and that at the end of the trial period, the attraction shall be dismantled;
2. At the end of the trial period, any permanent installation shall be subject to environmental review by the City of Los Angeles and the California Coastal Commission and to input from the VNC and the community regarding the impact on the community, including without limitation, the noise impact, parking, visual



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- blight, whether appropriate security and safety considerations have been met, how the company has handled crowd control, and revenue earned;
3. Night-time lighting, except for special performances, shall be confined to the minimum required for proper security;
  4. Night-time security shall be provided by a minimum of two people at all times;
  5. The Operator offers the live artistic performances and juggling, aerial aerobatic, and hooping and other classes and workshops for children contemplated in addition to the open public attraction and that financial packages are available for at risk minors that make it feasible for them to participate in the classes and workshops;
  6. At least 2/3rds of gross revenue paid to the City by the Operator shall be spent by the Department of Recreation and Parks for maintenance of and enhanced services at Venice Beach in addition to previously budgeted items, such that no funds currently budgeted by the Department of Recreation and Parks for such maintenance and services shall be replaced by this revenue and that a separate account be established to track both the revenue generated by the City from the zipline attraction and the expenses paid from that revenue to better assure enhanced spending to improve maintenance and other services in the Venice Beach community;
  7. The VNC (and through the VNC, the community of Venice) shall have "meaningful consultation" rights with the Department of Recreation and Parks regarding the maintenance and services specified in condition 6 above;
  8. The Operator shall reduce the parking impact of the attraction by offering incentives to encourage non-vehicular and public transportation customers;
  9. The Operator offer incentives, including discounts and other incentives to assure access by Venice residents and families;
  10. No "for profit" or commercial signage shall be allowed on any part of the attraction;
  11. The Operator, with the assistance of the VNC Arts Committee, shall invite local artists to dress the towers;
  12. The zipline attraction does not displace regularly scheduled events;
  13. The Operator hosts once a month benefits for Venice based nonprofits and non-profit organizations that serve the Venice community;
  14. The Operator, the Department of Recreation and Parks, LA City Council District 11, the VNC and community members shall meet monthly to review attraction operations and Venice Beach maintenance and services as mentioned in condition 6 above; and take corrective action should any of the above conditions not be met and/or other problems arise;
  15. The "Great Observation Wheel" proposal for installation at Venice Beach shall be permanently rejected in favor of a location elsewhere in the City where it might generate community support.



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## **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**General: Nick Antonicello, Elizabeth Wright, Alex Rose, DeDe Audet, Jim Murez**

**Against: Steve Freedman, David Fletcher, Kevin Hughes, Jessica Koslow, Ximeva Hfeshbery, Gail Rogers, Therese Diethin**

**In Favor: Jay Goodfader, Yolanda Gonzalez, Clabe Hartley**

## **ACTION: Motion Approved (AS/MK - 8-6-3)**

### **5. Scheduled Announcements (8:25PM –20 minutes)**

*[No discussion or Public Comment]*

- A** **PATH** (People Assisting the Homeless) **(3 minutes)** Update on Councilman Rosendahl's Roadmap to Homes Program, Joel Roberts, [Joel.Roberts@epath.org](mailto:Joel.Roberts@epath.org)), Tomasz Babiszkiwicz ([tomaszb@epath.org](mailto:tomaszb@epath.org)); *This report includes statistics on the number of people placed in permanent and temporary housing as well as the numbers of people in process.*
- B** **Public Safety - LAPD Report (10 minutes):** Lt. Paola Kreeft, Venice Beach Detail; Senior Lead Officers Peggy Thusing/Theresa Skinner/Gregg Jacobus, (310-622-3968; [25120@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:25120@lapd.lacity.org), [35162@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:35162@lapd.lacity.org), [31142@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:31142@lapd.lacity.org)). *This report includes crime reports, updates on the status enforcement of the OFW Vending ordinance (LAMC 42.15) and outcomes of enforcement in Venice in general and of rules regarding the closure of Ocean Front Walk from Midnight to 5 a.m.*
- C** **Status Update on VNC Community Improvement Projects (2 minutes)** Ivan Spiegel, Parliamentarian and CIP Program Administrator, [Parliamentarian@Venicenc.org](mailto:Parliamentarian@Venicenc.org)
- D** **Governmental Reports (8:45PM – 20 minutes)**
- **U.S. Congress Representative Janice Hahn**, Deputy Natalie Rodgers, ([Natalie.Rodgers@mail.house.gov](mailto:Natalie.Rodgers@mail.house.gov)) 310-831-1799
  - **State Senator Ted Lieu**, Representative, Veronica Zendejas ([Veronica.Zendejas@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Veronica.Zendejas@sen.ca.gov)) 310-318-6994
  - **State Assemblyperson Betsy Butler**, Representative, Stephanie Romero, [Stephanie.Romero@asm.gov](mailto:Stephanie.Romero@asm.gov) 310-615-3515
  - **LA County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky**, 213-974-3333
  - **Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa**; Joseph Hari, West Area Representative ([Joseph.Hari@lacity.org](mailto:Joseph.Hari@lacity.org)) 310-479-3823
  - **Los Angeles County Beaches and Harbors Department, Ken Foreman, Facilities and Property Maintenance Division Chief**, [KForeman@bh.lacounty.gov](mailto:KForeman@bh.lacounty.gov), 310.305.9559



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Report on "Summer at Venice Beach" plan with topics including Washington St. Lot; possible cooperative beach parking efforts, beach maintenance (lots, sand, underground restroom) and other issues affecting Venice.

- **City Councilmember Bill Rosendahl:** Cecilia Castillo, Field Deputy (310-568-8772); ([Cecilia.castillo@lacity.org](mailto:Cecilia.castillo@lacity.org)); Arturo Pina, District Director ([Arturo.Pina@lacity.org](mailto:Arturo.Pina@lacity.org))

## Announcements & Public Comment on items not on the Agenda

*[5 speakers, no more than 1 minute per person – no Board member announcements permitted]*

**Public Comment: Nick Antonicello**

### 6. **Old Business (9:15 -- 30 minutes)**

*[Discussion and possible Action]*

#### A **Closing Nominations for Board Community Officer Seat (5 Minutes)**

<http://www.venicenc.org/node/2115>

##### **Candidates:**

Benjamin Ballentine

Rita Hart Cooney

Mark Rojas

Tom Sauer

**ACTION: Nominations closed**

#### B **Closing Nomination for LUPC Seat and possible selection**

<http://venicenc.org/node/2702>

##### **Candidates:**

Mia Herron

Michael Jensen

Mehrnoosh Mojallali

Maury Ruano

**ACTION: Nominations closed**

#### C **Report from Election Committee and update on LA City Council Decisions on 2012 Neighborhood Council Elections**

### 7. **Land Use and Planning Committee Motions (9:45 - 30 minutes)**



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*[Discussion and possible action]*

- A** **1319 S ABBOT KINNEY BLVD 90291; APCW-2011-1152-SPE-CDP-SPP-MEL E** Jake Kaufman on behalf of the Land Use and Planning Committee [chair-lupc@venicenc.org](mailto:chair-lupc@venicenc.org) **[EXHIBIT A]**

**MOTION :** The Venice Neighborhood Council supports **DENIAL** of the project for the following reasons:

- a. The property is currently in violation of code and this is to correct the violation. Order to comply was issued on November 15, 2007 and has remained out of compliance ever since.
- b. Do not support a variance or exception to the VCZSP because there is no hardship to the property, it was simply to increase square footage of the retail space.
- c. Do not want the ADA (Handicap) parking space removed, under any circumstance.
- d. \$18,000 in lieu of fee should only be for BIZ parking (per VCZSP), not for any or all parking spaces needed.
- e. Rent has been generated on these (removed) parking spaces. The Community has had to incur the burden of public parking because of this rented space and should be given back or repaid back to the Community (est \$5/sqft for 4 years is roughly \$200,000) before any permits are issued and, any additional rent received should continue to accrue and given to the Community until the spaces are returned.
- f. Required on-site parking must physically be within 750sqft. of the property.

The property currently rented by Mystic Journey Bookstore converted their required parking into retail space. They were told to come into compliance in 2007. They filed to convert the parking.

**PUBLIC COMMENT: Jim Murez, Humberto Braga**

**ACTION: Motion Approved (JK/MA – 14-0-1)**

- 8. Treasurers Report (10:15 - 10 minutes); Hugh Harrison ([Treasurer@Venicenc.org](mailto:Treasurer@Venicenc.org)) **[EXHIBIT B]****

*[Discussion and possible action to approve financial statements and expenditures]*

- A** **MOTION:** The VNC Board approves the attached report on expenditures for the period March 22, 2012, through April 21, 2012, and the itemized purchase card invoice.

**ACTION: Motion Approved Unanimously (HH/IK)**



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## **B** Approval of Reallocated Budget

[EXHIBIT C]

**MOTION:** The VNC Board approves the following amendments to the 2011-2012 VNC budget:

Budget Committee vote: 4-0-0

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Daryl Barnett

**ACTION:** Motion Approved Unanimously (HH/MS)

## **9.** VNC Announcements (10:25 --10 Minutes)

- **President:** Linda Lucks ([president@venicenc.org](mailto:president@venicenc.org))  
A VNC Board Retreat/NewWeb Training @ The Canal Club or other Venice venue on Saturday, June 16 from 1-5pm. Appointment of Mindy Meyer to chair the VNC BBQ Committee and Mariana Aguilar, chair of the Great Venice NC Toy Drive
- **Vice President** Marc Saltzberg ([Vicepresident@Venicenc.org](mailto:Vicepresident@Venicenc.org))
- **LA Alliance of NC's Representative:** Ivan Spiegel, ([parliamentarian@venicenc.org](mailto:parliamentarian@venicenc.org))
- **Plancheck NC:** VNC Rep Challis Macpherson ([Challis.Macpherson@Verizon.net](mailto:Challis.Macpherson@Verizon.net))
- **LA Dept of Water & Power/Memoranda of Understanding:** VNC Rep DeDe Audet ([daudet@ca.rr.com](mailto:daudet@ca.rr.com))
- **LAPD Community Police Advisory Board:** Daffodil Tyminski ([Daffodil.Tyminski@Venicenc.org](mailto:Daffodil.Tyminski@Venicenc.org)) , Nicolas Hippisley-Coxe, ([hippisley@earthlink.net](mailto:hippisley@earthlink.net))
- **Westside Alliance of Neighborhood Councils-** Mike Newhouse, President, Marc Saltzberg , VNC Representatives. [Chair@westsidecouncils.org](mailto:Chair@westsidecouncils.org), [VicePresident@Venicenc.org](mailto:VicePresident@Venicenc.org),

### **Announcements & Public Comment on items not on the Agenda**

*[20 minutes, no more than 1 minute per person – no Board member announcements permitted]*

## **10.** Board Member Comments on subject matters within the VNC jurisdiction (5 min, no more than 1 minute per person]

## **11.** Adjourn (approx. 11:00)

**ACTION:** Meeting Adjourned