

City of Los Angeles  
Voices Neighborhood Council  
Regular Board Meeting



Tuesday, January 14, 2020, 6:00 pm  
1201 W. 48<sup>th</sup> Street, LA 90037  
Vermont Square Library, Community Room

Sally Embrey, Area 1  
Odalis Perez, Area 2  
Vacant, Area 3  
Edward Garren, Area 4  
Parker Rand, At-Large  
Jaime Rabb, Corresponding Secretary  
Albert Farias, Vice Chairperson



Vacant, Chairperson

Kelvin Guevara, Education  
Anita Gray, Youth  
Vacant, Faith-Based  
Sara Zurita, Community-Based  
Ingrid Guevara, Parliamentarian  
Steven Nieto, Recording Secretary  
Laure Ferguson, Treasurer

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Board on any agenda item before the Board takes an action on an item. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Board's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is limited to 3 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Council, and given to the first 10 persons who submit Speakers Cards to the Recording Secretary.

### **NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC**

The City of Los Angeles Code of Conduct will be enforced to ensure the Voices Neighborhood Council meetings are collaborative, supportive, and respectful of divergent opinions.

### **QUORUM**

The Voices Neighborhood Council has 14 elected positions and one nominated position. The Voices Neighborhood Council must have eight members present for quorum to conduct official business.

### **AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA)**

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices and other auxiliary aids and/or services, may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by emailing [VoicesNC90037@gmail.com](mailto:VoicesNC90037@gmail.com)

### **PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS**

In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please email [VoicesNC90037@gmail.com](mailto:VoicesNC90037@gmail.com)

### **CONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS**

For information on the Voices NC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the Voices NC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and at <https://VoicesNC.org>.

### **SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCION**

Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte a Jaime Rabb, Secretario Correspondiente, por correo electrónico a [VNCCorrSec18@gmail.com](mailto:VNCCorrSec18@gmail.com) para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

**AGENDA FOR 1/14/2020**

Call to Order @ **6:05PM:**

Roll Call: **Present: A. Farias, J. Rabb, P. Rand, S. Nieto, S. Zurita, K. Guevara, I. Guevara, S. Embrey, O. Perez**  
**Absent: E. Garren, L. Ferguson, A. Gray**

Pledge of Allegiance

Senior Lead Officer Report: **SLO R. Canizales spoke about upcoming Town Hall meeting hosted by 77<sup>th</sup> Police Station. He also spoke about the surge in car burglaries and property crimes in 2019 relative to 2018. Violent crime is down in 2019 compared to 2018.**

Public Officials Report : **Edith Vega, Mayor's Office, Speed hump application period is open.**  
**Brett Shears, Dept Neighborhood Empowerment, Neighborhood councils can use any vendor for design/outreach. However, there is only one approved vendor for translation services, Languages4You.**

General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: **Person 1: Flyers regarding Town Hall to oppose SB 50 in the back.**  
**Adjourned at 7:57 PM**

**Action Items**

All items listed are designated for discussion and possible action by the Voices Neighborhood Council. Council items identified as presentation may be proposed for action by the Council and will be reflected as such in the meeting minutes.

Item	Reference Number	Matter	Time Allotted
1.	0120-01	<b>Presentation by Sherrie Olson, 7 Eleven Consultant</b> - proposing 24-hour operation including beer and wine at 7Eleven at 6224 S Figueroa St. (northeast corner of Gage Ave.) Member/Committee: P. Rand Proposed Action: Refer proposal to Planning & Land Use Committee for a recommendation to the board. <b>Motion: J. Rabb; Second: S. Nieto; Unanimously carried.</b>	15 mins
2.	0120-02	<b>Presentation by Kelie Sturgis, Project: Peacemakers, Inc.</b> - Request for \$3,000 NPG Proposed Action: Board to motion on NPG to provide \$3,000 to financially assist at least 15 clients who enroll & complete either Anger Management or Domestic Violence classes. Perform BAC. <b>Motion: J. Rabb; Second: P. Rand; J. Rabb completed BAC. Unanimously carried.</b>	15 mins
3.	0120-03	<b>Council Meeting Minutes</b> Review and discussion of minutes from the Regular Board Meeting on December 10, 2019. Member/Committee: S. Nieto Proposed Action: Motion to approve the minutes for the December Board Minutes. <b>Motion: S. Nieto; Second: P. Rand; Unanimously carried.</b>	3 mins
4.	0120-04	<b>Monthly Expenditure Report</b> Review and discussion of MERs for December 2019 Member/Committee: A. Farias / L. Ferguson Proposed Action: Motion to approve the December 2019 MERs. MERs to be submitted by January 30, 2020. Perform BAC. <b>Motion: J. Rabb; Second: O. Perez; J. Rabb completed BAC. Unanimously carried.</b>	3 mins
5.	0120-05	<b>Reimbursement to Jaime Rabb for sending Certified Letters</b> Proposed Action: Motion to reimburse Jaime Rabb \$13.70 for sending certified letter to Treasurer, Laure Ferguson, and Education Representative, Kelvin Guevara, regarding vacating seat due to excessive absences. Perform BAC. <b>Motion: S. Embrey; Second: S. Zurita; J. Rabb completed BAC. Unanimously carried.</b>	3 mins

6.	0120-06	<p><b>Voices Vacancies</b>                  Review and discussion of vacant council seat, unassigned committees, liaisons, liaison alternates, and recruitment of community stakeholders for committee assignment. Discuss council member absences. Invite all committee members to be sworn in during December meeting.                  Member/Committee: A. Farias</p> <p>a) Presentation by Voices Neighborhood Council, Treasurer, Laure Ferguson.                  Proposed Actions: Motion to remove board member and Treasurer, Laure Ferguson, from the Voices Neighborhood Council Governing Board pursuant to Bylaw Article V, Section 7 due to excessive absences, specifically absences on the following Regular Board Meeting dates: Tuesday, October 8, 2019, Tuesday, November 12, 2019 and Tuesday, December 10, 2019.  <b>Motion: J. Rabb; Second: S. Zurita; Unanimously carried.</b>                  Motion to appoint Steven Nieto as Treasurer.  <b>Motion: P. Rand; Second: J. Rabb; Unanimously carried.</b></p> <p>b) Presentation by Voices Neighborhood Council, Education Representative, Kelvin Guevara.                  Proposed Action: Motion to remove board member and Education Representative, Kelvin Guevara, from the Voices Neighborhood Council Governing Board pursuant to Bylaw Article V, Section 7 due to excessive absences, specifically absences on the following Regular Board Meeting dates: Tuesday, September 10, 2019, Tuesday, October 8, 2019, Tuesday, November 12, 2019 and Tuesday, December 10, 2019.  <b>No action taken</b></p> <p>c) Presentation by Area 3 Representative candidate Abasi Patton.                  Proposed Action: Motion to appoint Abasi Patton as Area 3 Representative.  <b>Motion: S. Embrey; Second: K. Guevara; Unanimously carried.</b></p> <p>d) Presentation by Vice-Chairperson, Albert Farias                  Proposed Action: Motion to appoint Albert Farias as Chairperson.  <b>Motion: J. Rabb; Second: S. Zurita; Unanimously carried.</b>                  Motion to appoint Jaime Rabb as Vice-Chairperson.  <b>Motion: P. Rand; Second: S. Nieto; Unanimously carried.</b></p> <p>e) Council to motion on approving letter/email to be sent immediately to members who have exceeded the number of absences to inform seat is at risk of vacancy.  <b>No action taken.</b></p>	20 mins
7.	1219-07	<p><b>Council File 17-0981, Issue Over the Counter / On-Site Alcohol Sales / Conditional Use Permit</b>                  Member/Committee: P. Rand/A. Farias</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This council file addresses a stream-lined application process for approving a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for granting on-site sales of alcohol.</li> <li>Motion that Voices NC <b>SUPPORT</b> LA City Council File 17-0981 and <b>APPROVE IF AMENDED and SUBMIT</b> community impact statement;</li> </ul> <p><b>“Voices NC supports LA City Council’s file with amendment that applicants appear before our FULL BOARD to initiate a dialogue, address both parties concerns, and agree to engage each other in decision making.”</b>  <b>This item will be placed on February agenda.</b></p>	3 mins

8.	0120-08	<p><b>Council File 17-0117, Alcohol Restricted Use Subdistrict Ordinance (ARUS)</b> <b>Member/Committee: P. Rand/A. Farias</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The ARUS ordinance is a land-use tool that protects vulnerable communities that may already be flooded with alcohol retailers, giving them the power to limit how many of these businesses continue to enter their neighborhood.</li> <li>Motion that Voices NC <b>SUPPORT</b> LA City Council File 17-0117 and <b>APPROVE IF AMENDED and SUBMIT</b> community impact statement;</li> </ul> <p><b>"Voices NC supports LA City Council's with amendments that retail liquor tax revenue be re-invested in our community with the consent of or at the discretion of the Neighborhood Council, liquor licensee to address and discourage public drinking on property, that Voices Neighborhood Council have a vote to rescind or renew any license issued to sell liquor in our neighborhood, that a 5-year renewal cycle be implemented concurrent and compliant with the Ordinances implementation and that blight, trash and graffiti on the Property of the Licensee be abated within 24 hours."</b></p> <p><b>This item will be placed on February agenda.</b></p>	3 mins
9.	0120-09	<p><b>Community Clean Up Day</b> Council to discuss proposed Voices NC Community Clean Up on Saturday, February 22, 2020 for a location in Area 2 for the purposes of outreach and community beautification. The Outreach Committee projects 100 participants and plans to allocate funds not to exceed \$700 to provide lunch/refreshments. <b>Member/Committee: J. Rabb, Outreach Committee Chair</b> Proposed Action: 1) Motion that Voices NC <b>APPROVE</b> Community Clean Up on Saturday, February 22, 2020.</p> <p><b>Motion: S. Nieto Second: P. Rand; Unanimously carried.</b></p> <p>2) Motion that Voices NC <b>APPROVE</b> not to exceed \$700.00 to purchase lunch/refreshments. Perform BAC.</p> <p><b>Motion: S. Zurita Second: P. Rand; J.Rabb completed BAC. Unanimously carried.</b></p>	5 mins
10.	0120-10	<p><b>Voices NC /MyLA311 Campaign</b> <b>Member/Committee: J. Rabb, Outreach Committee Chair</b> Proposed Action: Motion that Voices NC <b>APPROVE</b> targeted postcard mailing for MyLA311 campaign. Approximately 1,000 mailed to targeted address within our boundaries; cost for 1,000 postcards printed and sent via USPS mail no more than \$600 from NextDay Flyers. Perform BAC: NextDay Flyers for 1,000 postcards (printing &amp; mailing) in the amount not to exceed \$600.00.</p> <p><b>Motion: P. Rand; Second: S. Embrey; Unanimously carried.</b></p>	3 mins
11.	0120-11	<p><b>Activity Books for Kids from The Hero In You Foundation</b> <b>Member/Committee: J. Rabb, Outreach Committee Chair</b> Proposed Action: Motion that Voices NC <b>APPROVE</b> purchase not to exceed \$500.00 for 500 qty activity books by Rocket Rules for distribution with branded crayon packs at events. Perform BAC.</p> <p><b>Motion: S. Zurita; Second: J. Rabb; Unanimously carried.</b></p>	3 mins
12.	0120-12	<p><b>Committee Status and Structure</b> As per the general board meeting held on July 9, 2019, we are reconsidering the formation and board member make up for the VoicesNC committees. Member/Committee: A. Farias Proposed Action: Motion that Voices NC <b>APPROVE</b> combining the Arts Parks and Recreation with the Outreach Committee to formalize Community Engagement Committee with Jaime Rabb and Sara Zurita as co-chairs, Anita Gray, Steven Nieto, Erica Helphand (Stakeholder) as members until the end of the fiscal year.</p>	10 mins

		<p><b>This item will be placed on February agenda.</b> Proposed Action: Motion that Voices NC <u>APPROVE</u> combining the Planning and Land Use, with Health and Safety Committee with Steven Nieto and Parker as co-chairs and Albert Farias, Ed Garren and Sawnia House (Stakeholder) as members until the end of the fiscal year. <b>This item will be placed on February agenda.</b></p>	
13.	1219-13	<p><b>Committee &amp; Liaison Reports</b> Council to report on committee and liaison activities and invite interested stakeholders to participate in scheduled meetings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outreach Committee</li> <li>• Planning &amp; Land Use Committee</li> <li>• Arts, Parks &amp; Recreation Committee</li> <li>• Youth &amp; Education Committee</li> <li>• Budget &amp; Finance Committee (No December Meeting)</li> <li>• CPAB (77th &amp; Southwest) Liaison (No December Meeting)</li> <li>• Homeless Liaison (No December Meeting)</li> <li>• SLAANC Liaison (No December Meeting)</li> </ul> <p>Proposed Action: No motions from updates. Committee and Liaison agenda motions will be listed individually for discussion and possible action.</p>	10 mins
14.	0120-14	<p><b>Ad Hoc Committees</b> Proposed Action: Bylaws and Standing Rules - review and track proposed changes to bylaws and present revisions to the board by the March 2020 general board meeting. Appoint Sally Embrey as chair and no more than 4 board members. <b>Motion: J. Rabb; Second: S. Zurita; Unanimously carried.</b> Proposed Action: Sustainability Committee - develop a description of the committee objectives and issues the committee will tackle. Present description and recommend committee members to the board by the March 2020 general board meeting. Appoint Ed Garren as chair and no more than 4 board members. <b>Motion: P. Rand; Second: S. Nieto; Unanimously carried.</b></p>	10 mins
15.	0120-15	<p><b>Schedule Special Board Meeting/Training in January/February 2020</b> Proposed Action: hold special meeting/training on Saturday, January 25 or Saturday, February 8 <b>This item will be placed on February agenda.</b></p>	3 mins.
16.	0120-16	<p><b>Institute a Monthly Newsletter that may include a list of upcoming meetings/events, highlight board actions from previous month, community spotlight (business, person, place)</b> Proposed Action: Appoint a monthly board member to develop a newsletter to be distributed via the email-list serve. Submit final newsletter to Jaime Rabb for approval and dissemination. <b>This item will be placed on February agenda.</b></p>	5 mins.
17.	0120-17	<p><b>Mevo Plus Pro – camera equipment to livestream meetings</b> Proposed Action: Board to approve purchase of Mevo Plus Pro Bundle not to exceed \$800. Perform BAC. <b>This item will be placed on February agenda.</b></p>	5 mins.

**Voices NC Council Vacancy**

Interested stakeholders can email a Letter of Intent to [VoicesNC90037@gmail.com](mailto:VoicesNC90037@gmail.com). Additional information about Voices NC is available at <https://VoicesNC.org>

Council Vacancy	Description
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<b>1. Chairperson</b>	Preside at all Board meetings Serve as spokesperson and representative of the Board approved position Ensure that all books, reports and certificates required by law are properly kept and filed Act as chief liaison to all outside organizations and Neighborhood Councils Sign board approved correspondence from the VNC Call special meetings when urgent matters arise if the issue warrants critical and timely attention of the Council
<b>2. Area 3 Representative</b>	Represents all interests within Area 3 of the VNC.
<b>3. Faith Based Representative</b>	Represents the interests of faith-based organizations in our community and who is designated representative of a faith-based organization located within the boundaries of the VNC area.

<b><u>Voices NC Council Liaisons</u></b>			
<b>Council Liaison</b>	<b>Meeting Time</b>	<b>Assigned Member</b>	<b>Alternate Member</b>
<b>1. SLAANC</b>	Third Thursday of the month (6:30pm)	A. Farias	J. Rabb
<b>2. LAPD 77<sup>th</sup> C-PAB</b>	Second Thursday of the month (6:00pm)	S. Nieto	J. Rabb
<b>3. LAPD Southwest C-PAB</b>	First Monday of the month (6:00pm)	Vacant	Vacant
<b>4. Homeless</b>	Last Tuesday of the month (6:30pm)	A. Farias	Vacant
<b>5. Resilience/Disaster Preparedness</b>	TBD	S. Zurita	Vacant
<b>6. Budget Advocate</b>	First Monday of the month (7:00pm)	L. Ferguson	J. Rabb

<b><u>Voices NC Council Financial Responsibilities</u></b>
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<b>Primary Signer</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Signer</b>	<b>Alternate Signer</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Bankcard holder</b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Bankcard holder</b>
L. Ferguson (Treasurer)	A. Farias	J. Rabb	A. Farias	J. Rabb

<b><u>Voices NC Standing Committees</u></b>		
<i>All meetings are open to the public and will be posted on <a href="http://www.empowerla.org">www.empowerla.org</a>. All meetings will be held at Vermont Square Library unless otherwise posted. For more about Voices NC Standing Committees refer to Bylaws, Article VI, and Section 1.</i>		
<b>Standing Committees</b>	<b>Assigned Council Member</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>1. Arts, Parks, &amp; Recreation</b>	S. Zurita	The Arts, Parks and Recreation Committee will have the responsibility to discuss issues, promote partnerships on projects and brainstorm ideas to encourage greater community involvement and support. The Arts, parks and Recreation Committee will explore issues and ideas in order to define community identity and values by giving voice to its citizens and providing

		a form for group action and expression. The committee submits reports of meetings in written form and makes recommendations to the Board for action. The Chair selects meeting site, date and time and meets as directed in these Bylaws.
<b>2. Budget &amp; Finance</b>	L. Ferguson	The Budget and Finance Committee Investigate and pursue sources of income and funding. Make an initial review of project proposals and provide a report to the VNC board with recommendations. Generate a budget for each fiscal year, showing planned income and expenditures. And, maintain the Council budget current and report any issues to the Board.
<b>3. Outreach</b>	J. Rabb	The Outreach Committee shall be charged with continuing to outreach to the VNC stakeholders by utilizing any acceptable and Board approved forms of media (e.g. flyers, newsletters, print, television/electronic media, signs, banners, website, etc.) to inform stakeholders regarding projects and events. The content and method of distribution must be pre-approved by the Board.
<b>4. Planning &amp; Land Use</b>	P. Rand	The Planning & Land Use Committee shall review, take public input, report on and make recommendations of actions to the Board on any land use, beautification, and planning issues affecting the community in order to improve the health and quality of life of its citizens. The committee also reviews and recommends action regarding building development projects requiring land use permits within the VNC boundaries; advocates positions on land use and building design for the betterment of the community; and considers and provides recommendations to Council on other topics, such as rezoning, applications, development permits, and any subdivision that require council approval.
<b>5. Senior Services</b>	Vacant	The Senior Services Committee addresses the needs of senior citizens in the community and provides an environment where seniors can discuss current issues, share ideas and voice their concerns. The committee will be supportive of programs and services that provide seniors with maximum vitality and independence. It will identify, monitor and address issues that have impact upon seniors' quality of life. The committee will promote "Healthy Aging" by creating an environment where individual differences and needs are recognized; by promoting multicultural awareness, understanding and interaction; and by serving as a bridge to access government information and resources.
<b>6. Youth &amp; Education</b>	A. Gray, K. Guevara	The Youth & Education Committee addresses the issues, concerns, programs and services related to the education of children, youth and adults and developing specific strategies and policies for influencing and achieving constructive outcomes within schools, classrooms, and other education/learning centers that serve the Voices community. Additionally, this committee has the general responsibility to discuss issues, foster collaboration on projects, and brainstorm ideas to encourage greater community involvement/support and participation.

<b>7. Health &amp; Safety</b>	S. Nieto	The Health & Safety Committee seeks opportunities to organize and forums to mobilize the community in seeking safety practices. This includes partnering with Neighborhood Watch, Volunteer Safety Task Force (to enhance the Services provided by the School Crossing Guards), School Crossing Guards, Los Angeles Police Department Senior Lead Officers and Traffic Division and the Los Angeles Fire Department. Representatives of VNC will work to formalize a relationship with these City agencies and other entities responsible for “safety issues” in our community.
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