

City of Los Angeles
Voices Neighborhood Council
Regular Board Meeting



Tuesday, April 14, 2020, 6:00 pm
VIA Telephone or Internet (Zoom)

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



Albert Farias, Chairperson

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

MINUTES
AGENDA FOR 4/14/2020

NOTE

Due to the imposed state of emergency, the VoicesNC will be conducting its meetings via the Zoom platform. You have the option of attending via the internet or by telephone. This will be our first meeting using this platform so we request your patience if the meeting does not go as smoothly as we anticipate. Question? Voicesnc90037@gmail.com

MEETING ACCESS INFORMATION

Internet: <https://bit.ly/2V0ygzB>
Telephone: 1 (669) 900-6833
Meeting ID: 177 640 527
Password: 069335

PUBLIC COMMENTS

For the public joining by internet or telephone who wish to address the Board, the Chair will unmute the lines during the public comment section on the agenda and momentarily prior to the Board taking action on any agenda items. All other rules to public comments still apply. 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 **Note: for TTY/TDD services, please refer to state provided services at <https://ddtp.cpuc.ca.gov/homepage.aspx>. Zoom meetings feature closed captioning functionality.**

Telecommunication Relay Services

Telephone communication is one of the most important forms of communication in society today. Due to advancements in technology, telephone devices have evolved with new services and capabilities. Individuals who are deaf and hard of hearing,

and individuals with a speech disability are following these trends and are rapidly migrating to more advanced telecommunications methods, both for peer-to-peer and third-party telecommunications relay service (TRS) communications.

Telecommunications Relay Service is a telephone service that allows persons with hearing or speech disabilities to place and receive telephone calls. TRS is available in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. territories for local and/or long distance calls. TRS providers - generally telephone companies - are compensated for the costs of providing TRS from either a state or a federal fund. There is no cost to the TRS user.

What forms of TRS are available? There are several forms of TRS, depending on the particular needs of the user and the equipment available: TRS includes: Text to Voice TTY-Based TRS; Speech-to-Speech Relay Service; Shared Non-English Language Relay Service; Captioned Telephone Relay Service; Internet Protocol Relay Service; and Video Relay Service. Please visit this site for detail descriptions, <https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/telecommunications-relay-service-trs>.

Don't hang up! Some people hang up on TRS calls because they think the CA is a telemarketer. If you hear, "Hello. This is the relay service .. ." when you pick up the phone, please don't hang up! You are about to talk, through a TRS provider, to a person who is deaf, hard-of-hearing, or has a speech disability.

For more information about FCC programs to promote access to telecommunications services for people with disabilities, visit the FCC's Disability Rights Office website.

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

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, Vice Chair, por correo electrónico a Vicechair@voicesnc.org para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

NOTICE TO PAID REPRESENTATIVES

If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code §§ 48.01 *et seq.* More information is available at ethics.lacity.org/lobbying. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or ethics.commission@lacity.org.

AGENDA FOR 4/14/2020

Call to Order
Roll Call
Pledge of Allegiance
Senior Lead Officer Report
Public Officials Report
General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

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	Matter	Time Allotted
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	Number		
1.	0420-01	<p>Meeting Minutes Review and discussion of minutes from the March Meeting on March 10, 2020. Member/Committee: K. Benoit Proposed Action: Motion to APPROVE the minutes for the March Minutes.</p>	3 mins
2.	0420-02	<p>Monthly Expenditure Report Review and discussion of MERs for March 2020 Member/Committee: S. Nieto Proposed Action: Motion to APPROVE the March 2020 MERs. MERs to be submitted by April 30, 2020. Perform BAC.</p>	3 mins
3.	0420-03	<p>COVID 19 Community issues, resources, and support Phone Bank and Senior Check-In, Community Businesses A. Farias identifies resources we have posted on our website/social platforms, etc. Sawnia House(stakeholder) mentions C19helpsqad.com which helps coordinates efforts to shop for neighbors, etc S. Zurita mentions Homeless Services Employment opportunities; will post both on our website/social platforms, etc. J. Rabb will post both opportunities on our website.</p>	20 mins
4.	0420-04	<p>Face Masks Discuss the purchase and distribution of face masks within VoicesNC boundaries (250 @ \$1,000) Proposed Action: Council to approve the purchase of face masks not to exceed \$3,000. Perform BAC. Motion: J Rabb. motioned Council to approve the purchase of face masks which includes postage not to exceed \$3,000. E Garren second. Unanimously approved; Motion Carries.</p>	10 mins.
5.	0420-05	<p>Food banks Discuss partnering with food banks to distribute meals and/or groceries within the VoicesNC boundaries Proposed Action: Council to approve the purchase of meals or groceries not to exceed \$3,000. Perform BAC. LA Regional Food Bank or Community Build are mentioned as potential organizations to help fund. Motion: P. Rand motioned Council to approve donating \$3,000 to Community Build to purchase food or directly purchase food from Community Build's food provider to donate to those in need within Voices NC boundaries. O. Perez second. Unanimously approved; Motion Carries.</p>	10 mins.
6.	0420-06	<p>Be Neighborly Campaign Review and discuss mock up from 907K and Ad Hoc Committee Recommendations for the light pole banners, and lawn signs. Proposed Action: Council to motion to approve design for the light pole banners and design concept. Have 907k revise one design to show jazz musician with musical notes; have scalloped edges white at bottom and sides and bleed at top. Motion: E. Garren motioned Council to approve the design for light pole banner and design concept. S. Nieto second. Unanimously approved; Motion Carries.</p>	15 mins
7.	0420-07	<p>Light Pole Banners</p>	10 mins

		<p>Proposed Action: Council to approve not to exceed \$9,500 to print and install 30 double-sided light pole banners within the VoicesNC boundaries. Perform BAC.</p> <p>Motion: S. Zurita motioned Council to approve not to exceed \$9,500 for the printing and installation of 30 double-sided light pole banners within Voices NC boundaries. E. Garren second. Unanimously approved; Motion Carries.</p>	
8.	0320-08	<p>Census Event Update Deadline extended to August 14, 2020. Member/Committee: A. Farias and S. Zurita A. Farias gave update that Census deadline has been extended until August 14, 2020. Please encourage your neighbors to complete the census.</p>	5 mins
9.	0320-09	<p>School Safety- Speed Humps Member/Committee: P. Rand and A. Farias Discuss structural solutions to how speed humps are allocated to the schools and parks in our neighborhoods. Proposed Action: Motion to approve a resolution that allows schools to submit a streamlined application to the bureau of street services for speed humps. E. Garren motioned. J. Rabb second. Unanimously approved; Motion Carries. A. Farias will send letter to appropriate parties.</p>	10 mins
10.	0320-10	<p>Council File 11-1705, Citywide Sign (Billboard) Ordinance Member/Committee: P. Rand and A. Farias Citywide sign regulations including opt-in provision, alternative approaches to off-site signs, defining billboard blight, equity for small businesses and mural signs and related matters. Proposed Action: Motion that Voices NC OPPOSE LA City Council File 11-1705 because of the following reasons: no stipulation on saturation of digital billboards; oppose traffic hazzard and revenue generated from these aren't invested in our communities. with amendments limit saturation of digital billboards, limit flashing/cycle changes, invest a percentage of revenue back into the community. E. Garren motioned. A. Gray second. Unanimously approved; Motion Carries.</p>	10 mins
11.	0320-11	<p>Vermont Square and Julian Dixon Park Plans Discuss recreational and safety priorities for Vermont Square Park Member/Committee: A. Farias Proposed Action: Motion that the Voices NC APPROVE a letter outlining priority areas for each park with the addition to encourage to look into opportunities to acquire additional land. Possible dog park added to feasibility study as well as closing Budlong Ave. to thru traffic and limit vehicular accessibility into the park. Address traffic flow around the library to because the streets are narrow if cars are parked on both sides of the street-- consider one-way traffic. E. Garren motioned. J. Rabb second. Unanimously approved; Motion Carries. A. Farias will send letter to appropriate parties.</p>	10 mins
12.	0420-12	<p>Voices Vacancies 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 the February meeting. Member/Committee: A. Farias Proposed Action: 1) 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. 2) Council to appoint vacant board seats.</p>	5 mins

Voices NC Council Vacancy

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

Council Vacancy	Description
1. Corresponding Secretary	At the direction of the Chair, prepare and release formal board approved correspondence; routinely inform the public of the Council’s activities and inform the Board of City meetings and activities; receives and shares outreach notices and stakeholder information between committees; oversee the maintenance and updating of the website and other social media platforms; create and post all agenda notices in accordance with the Brown Act for all Board meetings; maintain and update the stakeholder database
2. Faith Based Representative	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.

Voices NC Council Liaisons

Council Liaison	Meeting Time	Assigned Member	Alternate Member
1. SLAANC	Third Thursday of the month (6:30pm)	A. Farias	J. Rabb
2. LAPD 77th C-PAB	Second Thursday of the month (6:00pm)	S. Nieto	J. Rabb
3. LAPD Southwest C-PAB	First Monday of the month (6:30pm)	S. Embrey	A. Patton
4. Homelessness	Every Other Month (TBD) (6:30pm)	A. Farias	K. Benoit, A. Gray, P. Rand
5. Resilience/Disaster Preparedness	TBD	S. Zurita	S. Embrey
6. Budget Advocate	First Monday of the month (7:00pm)	S. Nieto	E. Garren
7. Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance	TBD	K. Benoit	A. Patton

Voices NC Council Financial Responsibilities

Primary Signer	2nd Signer	Alternate Signer	1st Bankcard holder	2nd Bankcard holder
S. Nieto (Treasurer)	A. Farias	J. Rabb	A. Farias	J. Rabb

Voices NC Standing Committees

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All meetings are open to the public and will be posted on www.empowerla.org. 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.

Standing Committees	Assigned Council Member	Description
1. Arts, Parks, & Recreation	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.
2. Budget & Finance	S. Nieto	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.
3. Outreach	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.
4. Planning & Land Use	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.
5. Senior Services	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.
6. Youth & Education	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.
7. Health & Safety	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.