

City of Los Angeles
Voices Neighborhood Council
Regular Board Meeting



Tuesday, August 10, 2021, 6:00 pm
VIA Telephone or Internet (Zoom)

Sally Embrey, Area 1
Javonne Sanders, Area 2
Abasi Patton, Area 3
Edward Garren, Area 4
Parker Rand, At-Large
Matthew Crawford, Corresponding Secretary
Jaime Rabb, Vice Chairperson



Albert Farias, Chairperson

Vacant, Education
Vacant, Youth
Elizabeth Ebow, Housing
Estuardo Mazariegos, Community-Based
Sunny Keaton, Parliamentarian
Kaamil Benoit, Recording Secretary
Steven Nieto, Treasurer

Regular Board Meeting **MINUTES**

Tuesday, August 10, 2021

6:00 pm

Zoom Meeting Online or By Telephone

<https://zoom.us/j/96107326167>

Dial (669) 900-6833 or 877 853 5257 (Toll Free) to Join the Meeting

Then Enter This Webinar ID: 961 0732 6167

In conformity with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 (March 17, 2020), and due to public health concerns and directives issued by the Mayor of Los Angeles and Los Angeles County Public Health Department regarding reducing the spread of COVID-19, meetings of the VoicesNC will be conducted entirely by video conference or telephonically. This will be effective starting May 1, 2020 and will continue during the period in which state or local public health officials have imposed or recommended social distancing measures.

PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS

The public is requested dial *9, when prompted by the presiding officer, 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 Board.

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.

PUBLIC POSTING OF AGENDAS – Neighborhood Council agendas are posted for public review as follows:

- Vermont Square Library Front Door, 1201 W. 48th St.
- www.voicesnc.org
- You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City's Early Notification System at <https://www.lacity.org/subscriptions>

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.

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.

MINUTES FOR 8/10/2021

Call to Order @ 6:05 pm

Roll Call Present: A. Farias, J. Rabb, S. Nieto, K. Benoit, S. Keaton, E. Garren, S. Embrey, P. Rand, E. Ebow, M. Crawford, E. Mazariegos, J. Sanders. Absent: A. Patton

Action Items

All items listed are designated for discussion and possible action by the Voices Neighborhood Council. Council items identified as presentations 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.	0821-01	General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items (limit 3 minutes per speaker) - <i>Lisa Diane Wedgeworth with Arts at Blue Roof announces art residency and is prioritizing CD9 artists.</i>	10 min.
2.	0821-02	Community/Government Reports and Announcements A. LAPD Senior Lead Officers -Southwest and 77th St. - <i>Southwest Ofc. Canizales: 10 crimes for the week including 2 car break ins. Crime is down significantly from last year.</i>	30 min.

		<p>- 77th Street Cpt. Zarekani: first CPAP meeting with an officer present. Future meetings will be held via Zoom. CPAP member drive starting soon. LAUSD reopening by the end of the month, will meet with the PD to collaborate after school PO hours have been reduced. 9 people shot, no homicides. Increasing visibility during the Summer.</p> <p>B. Office of Supervisor Mitchell's office - Alfonso Ruiz-Delgado -Not in attendance</p> <p>C. Council District 9 - Kendal Lake -Summer Saturdays is getting off to a good start. Next week is the Back to School BBQ from 12pm-2pm. CD 9 working to help families displaced as a result of the LAPD fireworks explosion. Lights and cameras are installed, Albert would like CD9 to meet with VNC to discuss monitoring.</p> <p>D. Mayor's Office - Edith Vega -Not present</p> <p>E. USC Civic Engagement- Steve Wesson -Not present</p> <p>F. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment- Karen Hernandez -NCs will complete ADA Assessment Form to ensure access for all stakeholders. FAQ section included. Planning 101 deadline extended to October 1st, 2021, not yet available on Cornerstone. Be sure to find out board member training status.</p> <p>G. KYCC - Margarita Munoz & Angelic Perez -KYCC services have been expanded to South LA. Program with DWP starting. More clean up, tree planting and tree distribution events to come. All of the trees planted by KYCC (except 2) are doing well. Margarita announces her departure from the SLA area and introduces new SLA rep, Angelic Perez.</p>	
3.	0821-03	<p>Treasurer's Report: Monthly Expenditure Report Review and discussion of VoicesNC Budget and MERs for July 2021. Member/Committee: S. Nieto, Treasurer <u>Proposed Action 1:</u> Motion to APPROVE the July 2021 MERs. MERs to be submitted by Aug. 31, 2021. Perform BAC. <u>Proposed Action 1:</u> Motion to APPROVE the FY 21-22 budget with rollover funds from FY20-21. Perform BAC. Proposed Motion 1: S. Nieto, 2nd: E. Garren. 12 YES, 0 NO, MOTION CARRIES. Proposed Motion 1: S. Nieto, 2nd: J. Rabb. 12 YES, 0 NO, MOTION CARRIES.</p>	10 min.
4.	0821-04	<p>Meeting Minutes Review and discussion of minutes from the June (6/8/21) & July (7/13/21) meetings. Member/Committee: K. Benoit Proposed Action: Motion to APPROVE the minutes for the June and July 2021 General Board Meetings. Motion: J. Rabb, 2nd: S. Keaton. MOTION CARRIES.</p>	5 min.
5.	0721-05	<p>Figueroa and Slauson Park Presentation by Sherilyn Correa and a representative from the Recreation and Park Department. <u>Proposed Action:</u> Motion to APPROVE support with recommendations for the Figueroa and Slauson Park Kendal Lake: Saturday 28th event at DWP on Figueroa to reveal the project to the public. NO ACTION TAKEN</p>	20 min.
6.	0821-06	<p>Vermont Square Slow Streets Program Board Member: J. Rabb, Outreach and Arts, Parks & Recreation Committee <u>Proposed Action:</u> Motion to APPROVE letter of support to LADOT with Phase 2 implementation for the Slow Streets program in our area. Motion: E. Garren, 2nd: M. Crawford. MOTION CARRIES.</p>	15 min.

7.	0821-07	<p>PG Hole Carribean Social & Cultural Center Discussion Board Member: M. Crawford <u>Proposed Action:</u> Motion to send this item to PLUM to draft letter to CD9 at the August meeting. Motion to add 5 mins: M. Crawford, 2nd: K. Benoit. MOTION CARRIES. Motion to add 5 mins: M. Crawford, 2nd: E. Garren. MOTION CARRIES. Motion: E. Garren, 2nd: M. Crawford. MOTION CARRIES.</p>	15 min.
8.	0821-08	<p>LAPD Firework Detonation Discussion Board Member: A. Farias <u>Proposed Action:</u> Motion to APPROVE a letter to Councilmember Curren Price Jr. and the LAPD. Motion to add 5 mins: E. Garren, 2nd: E. Mazariegos. MOTION CARRIES. Motion with amendment to also bring this item to the August PLUM meeting for further discussion and additions to the letter: E. Mazariegos, 2nd: M. Crawford. MOTION CARRIES.</p>	15 min.
9.	0821-09	<p>Committee & Liaison Reports Assignments Council to report on committee and liaison activities and invite interested stakeholders to participate in scheduled meetings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outreach Committee (<i>J. Rabb</i>) • Planning & Land Use Committee (<i>S. Neito</i>) • Arts, Parks & Recreation Committee • Health and Safety Committee • Budget & Finance Committee • Ad hoc Sustainability Committee • Ad hoc Business Committee • LA LGBTQ+ Alliance of Neighborhood Councils Liaison • CPAB - 77th Liaison & Southwest Liaison (<i>J. Rabb/ M. Crawford alternate</i>) • Homeless Liaison • SLAANC Liaison (<i>A. Farias/ M. Crawford alternate</i>) • Area Representatives (1, 2, 3, 4 and At-Large) <p><u>Proposed Action:</u> Council to assign committee chairs and liaisons: Motion: J. Sanders, 2nd: M. Crawford. MOTION CARRIES. Motion to appoint J. Rabb to Outreach Committee chair and S. Neito to Planning & Land Use Committee: A. Farias, M. Crawford. MOTION CARRIES Motion to appoint LA LGBTQ+ Alliance of Neighborhood Councils Liaison: M. Crawford, 2nd: A. Farias. MOTION CARRIES Motion to appoint E. Ebow as Homelessness Liaison: J. Rabb, M. Crawford. MOTION CARRIES</p>	15 min.
10.	0821-10	<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 <u>Proposed Action:</u> 1) Council to appoint vacant board seats - Education Rep and Youth Rep NO ACTION TAKEN</p>	5 min.
11.	0821-11	<p>General Board Announcements on Non-Agenda Items (Not for Discussion)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voices NC Board Member Training Updates • Community Refrigerator at United Market on 51st Place & Vermont Sign Up • Others 	3 min.
12.	0821-12	<p>Voices Neighborhood Council Board Member Communication and Responsibilities NO ACTION TAKEN</p>	15 min.

		Council to discuss access to public email addresses, google drive for important documents, and a general discussion about responsibilities and expectations as outlined in the bylaws and standing rules. Presentation by A. Farias and J. Rabb	
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RALPH M. BROWN ACT

54954.2. (a) At least 72 hours before a regular meeting, the legislative body of the local agency, or its designee, shall post an agenda containing a brief general description of each item of business to be transacted or discussed at the 5 meetings, including items to be discussed in closed session. A brief general description of an item generally need not exceed 20 words. The agenda shall specify the time and location of the regular meeting and shall be posted in a location that is freely accessible to members of the public. If requested, the agenda shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. The agenda shall include information regarding how, to whom, and when a request for disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services may be made by a person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in the public meeting.

REMOVAL WARNING

In the event that any meeting is willfully interrupted by a group or groups of persons so as to render the orderly conduct of such meeting unfeasible and order cannot be restored by the removal of individuals who are willfully interrupting the meeting, the members of the legislative body conducting the meeting may order the meeting room cleared and continue in session. Only matters appearing on the agenda may be considered in such a session. Representatives of the press or other news media, except those participating in the disturbance, shall be allowed to attend any session held pursuant to this section. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the legislative body from establishing a procedure for readmitting an individual or individuals not responsible for willfully disturbing the orderly conduct of the meeting.
 Government code Section 54957.9

DISRUPTION OF MEETINGS

Any person who interferes with the conduct of a Neighborhood Council meeting by willfully interrupting and/or disrupting the meeting is subject to removal. A Peace Officer may be requested to assist with the removal by the Neighborhood Council.

Any person who resists removal by a Peace Officer is subject to arrest and prosecution.
 Penal Code Section 403, Penal Code Section 602.1(b)

<p><u>Voices NC Council Vacancy</u></p> <p>Interested stakeholders can email a Letter of Intent to chair@voicesnc.org. Additional information about Voices NC is available at https://VoicesNC.org</p>	
Council Vacancy	Description
<p>1. Education Representative</p>	<p>The Education Representative represents the interest of students and educators within our community. This representative should be informed on the issues and concerns related to educational organizations and institutions within Voices Neighborhood Council boundaries.</p>

2. Youth Representative	The Youth Representative is appointed by the Board and must be at least sixteen (16) years of age at the time of appointment. This representative should be informed on the issues and concerns related to area youth and/or youth culture. If the appointed Youth Representative is less than eighteen (18) years of age, the person is excluded from voting on the (1) expenditure of Voices Neighborhood Council funds; (2) the hiring or firing of staff of the Voices Neighborhood Council; or (3) entering into contracts and agreements.
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Voices NC Council Liaisons			
Council Liaison	Meeting Time	Assigned Member	Alternate Member
1. SLAANC	Third Thursday of the month (6:30pm)		
2. LAPD 77th C-PAB	Second Thursday of the month (6:00pm)		
3. LAPD Southwest C-PAB	First Monday of the month (6:30pm)		
4. Homelessness	Every Other Month (TBD) (6:30pm)		
5. Resilience/Disaster Preparedness	TBD		
6. Budget Advocate	First Monday of the month (7:00pm)		
7. Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance	TBD		

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

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		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		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		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		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		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		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		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.