

City of Los Angeles  
Voices Neighborhood Council  
Regular Board Meeting



Tuesday, March 14, 2023, 6:00 pm  
VIA Telephone or Internet (Zoom)

Eric Chavez, Area 1  
Javonne Sanders, Area 2  
Abasi Patton, Area 3  
Vacant, Area 4  
Parker Rand, At-Large  
Matthew Crawford, Corresponding Secretary  
Dulce Vasquez, Vice Chairperson



Jaime Rabb, Chairperson

Emmanuel Alcantar, Education  
Vacant, Youth  
Elizabeth Ebow, Housing  
Estuardo Mazariegos, Community-Based  
Sunny Keaton, Parliamentarian  
Jason Saunders, Recording Secretary  
Edward Garren, Treasurer

## Regular Board Meeting **MINUTES**

Tuesday, March 14, 2023

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 and Press #**

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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, Chair, al (323) 285-1877 o por correo electrónico a [chair@voicesnc.org](mailto:chair@voicesnc.org) para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

In conformity with the September 16, 2021 Enactment of California Assembly Bill 361 (Rivas) and due to concerns over Covid-19, The Voices Neighborhood Council Meeting will be conducted entirely with a call-in option or internet-based service option.

Every person wishing to address the Board must dial (877) 853-5257, and enter 961 0732 6167 and then press # to join the meeting. When prompted by the presiding officer, to provide public input at the Neighborhood Council meeting the public will be requested to dial \*9 or use the Raise Hand option, 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.

### AB 361 Updates:

Public comment cannot be required to be submitted in advance of the meeting, only real-time public comment is required. If there are any broadcasting interruptions that prevent the public from observing or hearing the meeting, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned. If members of the public are unable to provide public comment or be heard due to issues within the Neighborhood Council's control, the meeting must be recessed or adjourned.

Any messaging or virtual background is in the control of the individual board member in their personal capacity and does not reflect any formal position of the Neighborhood Council or the City of Los Angeles.

**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.

**AGENDA FOR 3/14/2023**

*Call to Order 6:07*

*Present: Eric Chavez, Elizabeth Ebow, Edward Garren, Sunny Keaton, Estuardo Mazariegos, Abasi Patton, Jaime Rabb, Javonne Sanders, Jason Saunders, Dulce Vasquez*

*Absent: Emmanuel Alcantar, Parker Rand*

**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
1.	0323-01	<p><b>General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items</b> <b>Kamilla Sanchez, Prevention specialist at Avalon Carver Community Center: Offers various programs to offer drug use prevention. Focus groups discourage use of drugs. How to improve communication regarding drug use and prevention and work with the community. Class room and afterschool programs that encourage after school programs. <a href="http://www.avalon.harvard.org">www.avalon.harvard.org</a> instagram avalon harvard. Located at Avalon and 49th</b></p> <p><b>Herb Wesson: Working for Assembly Reggie Jones Sawyer Coffee and Conversation April 1st from 10 to 11:30. Feel Free to reach out.</b></p> <p><b>Daniel Johnson: Mayor's update</b></p>
2.	0323-02	<p><b>Community/Government Reports and Announcements</b></p> <p>A. LAPD Senior Lead Officers -Southwest and 77th St. Officer Canizales and Fire Battalion Chief Vernon to Slauson 110 freeway to Denker. 9 car thefts and catalytic converter thefts. Property Crimes are up 73 from 61 last year at this time. Robberies are down. Last year 32 currently have 22 Violent crime is steady. 6 homicides for the date. None in our direct area. a little to the east 9 rapes. 162 robberies. Last years was 2026. Aggravated assaults. 77 burglars 198 thefts 184 grand thefts. Shots fired 68. Totally of 33 victims hit.</p> <p>Community events. CPAB Catalytic converter etching event at the home depot shopping center. Seargent Garcia Email him directly. 10 to 1 p.m.</p> <p>Figuroa to Florence and Central are the hotspots. WSS stores manchester: grabbing handfuls of items and walking out. 76 and wadworth gunfire exchange. Domestic Violence. take custody of suspect on 110..</p>

		<p>Fire Department Patrick Leonard. Introduced himself and spoke about public safety concerns regarding heaters and carbon monoxide calls. From Station 46</p> <p>B. Office of Supervisor Holly Mitchell's office - Alfonso Ruiz-Delgado <b>Not present</b></p> <p>C. Congressmember Sydney Kamlager-Dove's office <b>Not Present</b></p> <p>D. State Senator Lola Smallwood Cuevas's office - Kirk Samuels <b>Not present</b></p> <p>E. Assemblymember Reggie Jones Sawyer's office - Herb Wesson III <b>Present</b></p> <p>F. Council District 9 - Bryce Rosauro <b>Home buyers workshop. 11 to 2 at CD 9 district office. 4301 S. Central Ave. Nomination for Sherows:</b></p> <p>G. Mayor Karen Bass' Office - Sandra Olmedo &amp; Brenda Lee Thompson <b>Not present - Send email regarding</b></p> <p>H. USC Civic Engagement- Steve Wesson <b>Not Present</b></p>
3.	0323-03	<p><b>Announcements/Updates by Department of Neighborhood Empowerment-</b> Daniel Johnson <b>Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate:</b> On March 2nd Raquel Beltran has transitioned as General Manager. Vanessa Serrano will be new interim General Manager of Dept.</p> <p>Secondary Locations in regards to meeting in person. Public facilities are easier to process but private locations are welcome. Liability issues. Brown Act.</p> <p>Use the opportunity. Rec and Parks. LAPD and or Fire Department for Public space or local non-profits to utilize space. Board Action Certification is required for location.</p> <p>Thursday March 23. Department will be hosting a new CIS portal feedback session via zoom. This portal will be used for all community impact statements. If you would like to be in attendance let Daniel know.</p> <p>He will be canvassing the voices community. AB361 Allowed us to meet online one last time After April 1st we will have to meet in person.</p> <p>All members must be present. We will have to stop the meeting if there is a glitch in broadcasting. Council file 10-1070 SB 411 May allow neighborhood council to go virtual. At this time it is not agendized.</p>
4.	0323-04	<p><b>Treasurer's Report: Monthly Expenditure Report</b> Review and discussion of MERs for February 2023. Member/Committee: E. Garren <u>Proposed Action:</u> Motion to APPROVE the February 2023 MERs. MERs to be submitted by March 31, 2023. Perform BAC. <b>First by Mathew. Second by Sunny to approve. 11 In favor and 2 absent.</b></p>
5.	0323-05	<p><b>Meeting Minutes</b> Review and discussion of minutes from the February (2/14/23) General Board Meeting and February (2/27/23) Joint Board &amp; BOP Committee Meeting. Member/Committee: J. Saunders <u>Proposed Action:</u> Motion to APPROVE the minutes for the February 14, 2023 General Board Meeting and February 27, 2023 Joint Board &amp; BOP Committee Meeting. <b>Motion to Approve by Jason, Second by Sunny</b> <b>Motion carries</b></p>
6.	0323-06	<p><b>Letter of Support for newly proposed gas station/car wash at 4270 Vermont Ave. (ZA-2020-1863-CU)</b> <u>Proposed Action:</u> Motion to APPROVE a Letter of Support of project. <b>6 yes 4 no. Motion Carries</b> <b>First by Mathew Crawford, Second by Sunny.</b></p>

7.	0323-07	<p><b>Hybrid/Teleconference Meeting Options</b>  <u>Proposed Action:</u> Motion to APPROVE Voices NC General Board Meetings and Committee Meetings be held via hybrid/teleconference.  <b>Board members may teleconference 3 times per year a board. No motion.</b></p>
8.	0323-08	<p><b>Safety Vest for Voices NC Community Clean Up Events</b>  Member/Committee: J. Sanders  <u>Proposed Action:</u> Motion to APPROVE ordering safety vests for Voices NC community clean up events not to exceed \$1,000. Perform BAC.  <b>Motion by Mathew, Second by Sunny: 10 yes, and 2 absent</b></p>
9.	0323-09	<p><b>Advertising Efforts Update &amp; Next Steps</b>  Member/Committee: M. Crawford  <b>Specific advertisements will have to be board approved.</b></p>
10.	0323-10	<p><b>Voices NC Block Party (Saturday, 5/20) Update &amp; Next Steps</b>  Member/Committee: D. Vasquez <b>no updates; will put on April agenda.</b></p>
11.	0323-11	<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 the meeting.  Member/Committee: J. Rabb or D. Vasquez  <u>Proposed Action:</u> 1) Area 4 Rep, Youth Rep</p>
12.	0323-12	<p><b>Community Impact Statements (CIS)</b>  Review and appoint up to five board members to file Community Impact Statements which are official statements adopted by a Neighborhood Council on issues pending before the City Council, its committees, or City commissions. Current appointed board members: Jaime Rabb, Jason Saunders, Dulce Vasquez, Emmanuel Alcantar, Matthew Crawford  Member/Committee: J. Rabb or D. Vasquez</p>
13.	0323-13	<p><b>Committee &amp; Liaison Reports Assignments</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>• BOP Committee</li> <li>• Planning &amp; Land Use Committee</li> <li>• Health and Safety Committee</li> <li>• Budget &amp; Finance Committee</li> <li>• Ad hoc Sustainability Committee</li> <li>• Sustainability Alliance Liaison</li> <li>• Ad hoc Business Committee</li> <li>• LA LGBTQ+ Alliance of Neighborhood Councils Liaison</li> <li>• CPAB - 77th Liaison &amp; Southwest Liaison</li> <li>• Homeless Liaison</li> <li>• SLAANC Liaison</li> <li>• Area Representatives (1, 2, 3, 4 and At-Large)</li> </ul> <p><u>Proposed Action:</u> Council to establish standing committee, to assign committee chairs, members and liaisons</p>
14.	0323-14	<p><b>General Board Announcements on Non-Agenda Items (Not for Discussion)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Coffee &amp; Conversation with Assembly member Reggie Jones Sawyer, Saturday, April 1, 2023 from 10am - 11:30am at Vermont Square Library</li> <li>- Voices NC Candidate Forum for Elections, Saturday, April 8, 2023 from 10am - 12noon at Vermont Square Library</li> <li>- Election Day - Saturday, April 15, 2023 from 11am - 5pm at Vermont Square Branch Library</li> </ul> <p><b>Meeting adjourned 8:20</b></p>

**ADJOURNMENT**

**THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT**

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, or 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 by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by calling (213) 978-1551 or email: [NCsupport@lacity.org](mailto:NCsupport@lacity.org)

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

- Vermont Square Library, 1201 W. 48th St. Los Angeles, CA 90037
- [www.voicesnc.org](http://www.voicesnc.org)
- You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to [L.A. City’s Early Notification System \(ENS\)](#)

**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 Section 48.01 et seq. More information is available at [ethics.lacity.org/lobbying](http://ethics.lacity.org/lobbying). For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or [ethics.commission@lacity.org](mailto:ethics.commission@lacity.org).

**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 our website: [www.VoicesNC.org](http://www.VoicesNC.org) or at the scheduled meeting. In addition if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact 323-285-1877 or email at: [Recordingsecretary@voicesnc.org](mailto:Recordingsecretary@voicesnc.org)

**RECONSIDERATION 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 [www.VoicesNC.org](http://www.VoicesNC.org).

<b><u>Voices NC Council Vacancy</u></b>	
Interested stakeholders can email a Letter of Intent to <a href="mailto:chair@voicesnc.org">chair@voicesnc.org</a> . Additional information about Voices NC is available at <a href="https://VoicesNC.org">https://VoicesNC.org</a> .	
<b>Council Vacancy</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>1. Area 4 Representative</b>	The Area 4 Representative represents all interests within Area 4 of the Voices Neighborhood Council. The Area 4 Representative will serve as a point of contact for voicing the Area’s community concerns. This representative should serve as a point of contact between their Senior Lead Officers and the Los Angeles Council members assigned to Area 4. This representative should be knowledgeable of city services that can be utilized and benefit Area 4 boundaries. This member is also responsible for ongoing outreach activities to this sector of our community.
<b>2. Youth Representative</b>	The Youth Representative must be at least fourteen (14) years of age and no more than seventeen (17) years of age at the time of the election/appointment. This

	representative should be informed on the issues and concerns related to area youth and/or youth culture. The Youth Representative 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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<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)	Matthew Crawford	Estuardo Mazariegos
<b>2. LAPD 77<sup>th</sup> C-PAB</b>	Second Thursday of the month (6:00pm)	Jaime Rabb	Matthew Crawford
<b>3. LAPD Southwest C-PAB</b>	First Monday of the month (6:30pm)		
<b>4. Homelessness</b>	Every Other Month (TBD) (6:30pm)	Elizabeth Ebow	
<b>5. Resilience/Disaster Preparedness</b>	TBD		
<b>6. Budget Advocate</b>	First Monday of the month (7:00pm)		
<b>7. Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance</b>	Third Sunday of the month (6:30pm)	Emmanuel Alcantar	
<b>8. LA LGBTQ+ Alliance of Neighborhood Councils</b>	TBD		

<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>
Edward Garren (Treasurer)	J. Rabb	M. Crawford	J. Rabb	M. Crawford

<b><u>Voices NC Standing Committees</u></b>		
<p><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></p>		
<b>Standing Committees</b>	<b>Assigned Member</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>1. Beautification, Outreach and Programming (BOP)</b>	Sara Zurita (stakeholder) & Jaime Rabb (Co-Chairs)	The BOP Committee will have the responsibility to discuss issues, promote partnerships on projects and brainstorm ideas to encourage greater community involvement and support. The 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. Also 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 Chair selects meeting site, date and time and meets as directed in these Bylaws.
<b>2. Budget &amp; Finance</b>	Vacant	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. Planning &amp; Land Use</b>	Edward Garren & Estuardo Mazariegos (Co-chairs)	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>4. Senior Services</b>		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>5. Youth &amp; Education</b>		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>6. Health &amp; Safety</b>		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.