

City of Los Angeles  
Voices Neighborhood Council  
Regular Board Meeting



Tuesday, May 9, 2023, 6:00 pm  
Vermont Square Branch Library

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



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

Jaime Rabb, Chairperson

## Regular Board Meeting **MINUTES**

Tuesday, May 9, 2023

6:00 pm

Vermont Square Branch Library  
(Downstairs Multipurpose Room)

1201 W. 48th St.

Los Angeles, CA 90037

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**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.

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

- Vermont Square Library Resources Wall, 1201 W. 48th St.
- [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 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](mailto: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](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, Chair, por correo electrónico a [chair@voicesnc.org](mailto:chair@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](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).

**AGENDA FOR 5/9/2023**

*Call to Order 6:07*

*Roll Call*

*Present Erik Chavez, Abasi Patton, Dulce Vasques, Edward Garren, Jason Saunders*

*Absent:*

*Emmanuel Alcantar, Matthew Crawford, Elizabeth Ebow, Sunny Keaton, Estuardo Mazariegos, Jaime Rabb, Parker Rand, Javonne Sanders*

**NO QUORUM**

**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.	0523-01	<p><b>General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items</b>  <b>Community Relations Coordinator with LAHSA.</b>  <b>Will make presentation with regarding head</b>  <b>Dakota: California Energy Consults, Is</b></p>
2.	0523-02	<p><b>Community/Government Reports and Announcements</b></p> <p>A. LAPD Senior Lead Officers - Southwest and 77th St.                      Robert Cannizales covers Vernon to Slauson, 110, Denker to Slauson                      Vehicles thefts Figueroa Corridor.                      1 homicide on the 23 of April. Man killed his brother.                      Road Rage incident off of Hoover and 57th. Shots fired.</p>

		<p>13 homicides this year. One last night 51st and Western.                  Carnival will be in front of the Station on June 9 or 10 and 11, Friday                  Greg Solvick; South of Slauson to Florence, Vermont to Vann Ness.                  Only two reported crimes, vehicle thefts of Kia. Kia is the number one most stolen vehicle.                  Chevy's are second most stolen vehicles. 2000 or newer.                  They have a few clubs anti thefts devices: Senior lead can get you. Air Tags.                  Saunders asked if services can be offered to homeless at Vermont Vernon&gt;                  1800 ASK LAPD. Circle Team: Clinicians, people with lived experience. Urban Alchemy, non profit                  attempting to handle homeless                  Sandra Olmelo from the mayor's office asked for feedback..</p> <p>B. LAFD Station 46 Battalion 13, Garcia. We cover 8 Districts. Working smoke detectors, Lithium ion                  batteries are catching fire: Need dry chemical extinguisher. You can unplug.                  Encampments starting on fire.</p> <p>C. Office of Supervisor Holly Mitchell's office - Alfonso Ruiz-Delgado - <b>not present</b></p> <p>D. Congressman Sydney Kamlager-Dove's office <b>not present</b></p> <p>E. State Senator Lola Smallwood Cuevas's office - Kirk Samuels <b>not present</b></p> <p>F. Assemblymember Reggie Jones Sawyer's office - Herb Wesson III <b>not present</b></p> <p>G. Council District 9 - Bryce Rosauro                  Arbor Day at Augustus Hawkins Park planting in the neighborhood giving Away trees. May 13, 100                  trees planted in the Park. June 3rd, food distribution at the district office. 700 produce boxes                  including chicken, Line up at 7:30 A.M. Tenant Protection flyers: legal services for people facing                  eviction. Landlord locking them out. Legal services can mediate the issue.                  Round 3 of small business recovering 2,500 to 15,000 dollars.                  Abasi asked City plants, Northeast                  Mayor Karen Bass' Office - Sandra Olmedo &amp; Brenda Lee Thompson                  April 17, Mayor Gave the state of the City Address: Plans for the next year. Link is to the monthly                  area report. Inside 1100 successfully, 200,00 pounds of waste have been disposed of. Proposed                  budget includes 1.3 billion to build housing to fight the homeless crisis. Community Safety and                  Wellness: Homeless, Establishing, subsistence use disorder treatment is proposed.</p> <p>H. USC Civic Engagement- Steve Wesson <b>Not Present.</b></p>
3.	0523-03	<p><b>Announcements/Updates by Department of Neighborhood Empowerment- Daniel Johnson, Need State Bill                  411 is moving through committees.</b></p>
4.	0523-04	<p><b>Treasurer's Report: Monthly Expenditure Report</b>                  Review and discussion of MERs for April 2023.                  Member/Committee: E. Garren  <u>Proposed Action:</u> Motion to APPROVE the April 2023 MERs. MERs to be submitted by May 30, 2023. Perform                  BAC. <b>No quorum; will add to June's agenda</b></p>
5.	0523-05	<p><b>Meeting Minutes</b>                  Review and discussion of minutes from the April (4/11/23) General Board Meeting.                  Member/Committee: J. Saunders  <u>Proposed Action:</u> Motion to APPROVE the minutes for the April 11, 2023 General Board Meeting <b>No quorum;                  will add to June's agenda</b></p>
6.	0523-06	<p><b>Presentation by Danielle Cartwright, Neighborhood Housing Services of Los Angeles County                  Center for Sustainable Communities</b>                  No motion                  Kimberly Stevens: Quickover of Neighborhood housing services. Homeownership opportunities can receive                  10 to 240,000 CRA Community Reinvestment Act. Banks are required to give back. Homeownership                  training. Hud Certified counselors. Will walk you through Credit Check. Different things to help prepare you                  to be a homeowner.</p>

		Don't move, improve. Low income, low interest rate 1, 2 or 3%. They have a program to do ADU. Neighborhood Housing Service, They are a CFI: Hope Workshop.
7.	0523-07	<b>Board Member Reimbursement for Voices NC Block Party Items</b> Member/Committee: D. Vasquez <u>Proposed Action 1:</u> Motion to reimburse Dulce Vasquez for no more than \$1,000.00 for expenses for Voices NC Block Party being held on May 20, 2023. <b>NO ACTION TAKEN, NO QUORUM.</b>
8.	0523-08	<b>Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC) Working Group for Constructive Change on a Proposed NC Bill of Rights</b> Member/Committee: M. Crawford <u>Proposed Action 1:</u> Motion to APPROVE letter. <b>NO ACTION TAKEN, NO QUORUM.</b>
9.	0523-09	<b>Advertising Efforts Update &amp; Next Steps</b> Member/Committee: M. Crawford <u>Proposed Action 1:</u> Motion to APPROVE advertising efforts. <b>NO ACTION TAKEN, NO QUORUM.</b>
10.	0523-10	<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
11.	0523-11	<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
12.	0523-12	<b>Committee &amp; Liaison Reports Assignments</b> Council to report on committee and liaison activities and invite interested stakeholders to participate in scheduled meetings. <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> <u>Proposed Action:</u> Council to establish standing committee, to assign committee chairs, members and liaisons
13.	0523-13	<b>General Board Announcements on Non-Agenda Items (Not for Discussion)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Voices NC Block Party, Saturday, May 20, 2023, 1-4pm at Vermont Square Park.</li> <li>- CicLAvia SouthLA, Sunday, June 18, 2023, 9am - 4pm (Voices NC Table at Vermont &amp; Slauson) - need board members to man the table including set up and removal - hand out swag and snacks to community members.</li> </ul>

**ADJOURNMENT @7:23PM**

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<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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<u>Voices NC Council Liaisons</u>			
Council Liaison	Meeting Time	Assigned Member	Alternate Member
1. SLAANC	Third Thursday of the month (6:30pm)	Matthew Crawford	Estuardo Mazariegos
2. LAPD 77 <sup>th</sup> C-PAB	Second Thursday of the month (6:00pm)	Jaime Rabb	Matthew Crawford
3. LAPD Southwest C-PAB	First Monday of the month (6:30pm)		
4. Homelessness	Every Other Month (TBD) (6:30pm)	Elizabeth Ebow	
5. Resilience/Disaster Preparedness	TBD		
6. Budget Advocate	First Monday of the month (7:00pm)		
7. Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance	Third Sunday of the month (6:30pm)	Emmanuel Alcantar	
8. LA LGBTQ+ Alliance of Neighborhood Councils	TBD		

<u>Voices NC Council Financial Responsibilities</u>
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Primary Signer	2 <sup>nd</sup> Signer	Alternate Signer	1 <sup>st</sup> Bankcard holder	2 <sup>nd</sup> Bankcard holder
Edward Garren (Treasurer)	J. Rabb	M. Crawford	J. Rabb	M. Crawford

<u>Voices NC Standing Committees</u>		
<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>		
Standing Committees	Assigned Member	Description
1. Beautification, Outreach and Programming (BOP)	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.
2. Budget & Finance	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.