



MAR VISTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL



Marvista.org

Special Meeting Agenda

Special Elections and Bylaws Committee with the Board of Directors

Thursday, January 18, 2024 From 7:00pm to 8:30pm

Windward School, 11350 Palms Blvd, Los Angeles, Ca 90066 Room 410

Public Welcome

Parking: Upon arrival, please enter through the Sawtelle lot as a member of the security team will guide you to room 410

1. CALL TO ORDER 7:05 PM

2. ROLL CALL AND EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS/CONFLICTS-OF-INTEREST - roll call shall include each attending board member declaring any ex parte communications outside of their duties and conflicts of interest pertaining to items on or related to this agenda.

Present: Committee Member Jakob Meuser

Conflicts and ex parte: None

Absent: Martin Rubin

3. WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES – See Supporting Documents

Jakob Moves, Megan Seconds, 5-0-0

5. SPECIAL ORDERS – NONE 6. STANDARD ORDER OF BUSINESS - NEW - SEE SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS FOR DETAILS

6.1. **[POLICY] BYLAWS AMENDMENT: YOUTH BOARD SEAT.** Discussion and possible action regarding motion to add a Youth Board seat to the MVCC.

Jakob Moves to pass the motion, Megan Seconds, 5-0-0. Open to discussion.

- Spencer notes some typos in the body of the motion, and they were corrected.
- Jakob adds language specifying the minimum age of people voting for a youth director at 14 years old in accordance with § 22.814.
- Jakob raises the possibility of eliminating an at large director seat to keep the total number of directors at 15.

Jakob Moves to amend the motion to eliminate an at large director seat. Spencer seconds. Opened up to discussion.

- Spencer notes that the MVCC was created to give the local community a voice, and giving youth a voice would serve to bring parents into the council as well. He noted the low MVCC election turnout figures and reasoned that it would be good to energize another demographic group in the community to increase engagement.
- Jakob explains that it would be very complex to remove a seat from the community council.

Amendment fails 0-4-1. Returned to original discussion, now concerning the background section of the motion.

- Megan and Frances reason that gridlock would not pose an issue with the addition of this board seat. Close votes in the MVCC are very rare.
- Spencer reiterates that increasing civic engagement among young people would also draw their parents in to participate in the council.
- Spencer notes that 16- and 17-year-olds can already vote for council seats, so there should be one that they can run for as well.
- Spencer explains that it is important that the 14- and 15-year-olds have some input on the council's makeup, so their issues are properly represented. Many of the issues addressed by the MVCC will affect Mar Vista's young people and the neighborhood they will grow up to experience.
- Spencer points out that adults often get caught up about business concerns and lose compassion, a trap youth are less prone to.
- Frances notes that disabled people have a hard time walking in this neighborhood, many of them under the age of 18.
- Jakob notes that the youth of Mar Vista require different methods of transportation than cars and a youth director could more effectively advocate for young people who want to get around.
- Spencer notes that Mar Vista youth are important people to have a voice in deciding how to make the neighborhood safe for youth.
- Spencer and Frances note that young people have more time to get passionate and engaged about this.
- Jakob raised the concern of safety for a potential minor serving on the MVCC, but Spencer does not feel concerned about danger from adults on the council, especially in the context of a public meeting.
- Frances notes that youth directors would have a lot of time to work on council issues. Youth have many extracurricular activities, and this would be a great option for those who want to experience civics at a young age.
- Spencer raised the idea of creating a youth ad hoc committee as well.
- The finalized background section reads: "There are many potential benefits to adding a Youth Director seat. Doing so would increase civic engagement among young people in Mar Vista. Many young people in Mar Vista want to get involved in their local government and see their views properly represented: this would be a great first step. 16- and 17-year-olds are already permitted to vote for directors, so there should be a seat that they can run for themselves. As contemplated in § 22.814, Angelenos at least 14 years of age will benefit the community by participating in elections and getting engaged."

Spencer moves to amend the background section as read aloud. Frances seconds. 5-0-0

Jakob moves to pass the amended motion as written, seconded by Spencer. 5-0-0

7. STANDARD ORDER OF BUSINESS - OLD 8. PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THIS AGENDA

- *The Brown Act provides for a “part of the*

meeting where the public can comment on any item of interest that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the local agency.” The MVCC is an advisory board to the Los Angeles City Council and, as such, its jurisdiction is restricted within Los Angeles and most importantly, the Mar Vista Community. Therefore, please keep public comments within the MVCC jurisdiction. Thank you.

Megan thinks that stakeholders should not be able to be the heads of committees. They may serve, but only directors should be the chair of a committee.

Spencer wanted to know about the process for directly petitioning the board.

Frances likes having meetings in person, but recognizes that zoom meetings may increase turnout.

9. ADJOURNMENT 8:20 PM

Jakob Moves, Megan seconds. 5-0-0

Agenda – Elections and Bylaws

Page 1 of 2

Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte Jennifer Rafeedie, Secretaria, al (424) 256-3633 o por correo electrónico jennifer.rafeedie@marvista.org para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

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/Committee 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/Committee meeting. Public comment is limited to one minute per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Committee.

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.

Public Input at Neighborhood Council Meetings – 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 Public Comments for Items NOT on This Agenda period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during this 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. Use the Zoom Link and phone numbers listed at the top of this agenda.

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- [MarVista.org](#)
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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, [MarVista.org](#), or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, they may be downloaded from our website; visit [MarVista.org > Council > Board](#).

Reconsideration and Grievance Process -

For information on MVCC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the MVCC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and our website, [MarVista.org](#).