

# Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates

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Neighborhood Empowerment Office, City Hall  
200 North Spring Street, Suite 2005, Los Angeles, CA 90012

Saturday, June 17, 2017

10:00 am

## Minutes

Board Members	Roll Call	Region	Board Members	Roll Call	Region
Ivette Ale	Absent	9	Keith Kirkwood	Absent	5
Brian Allen	Absent	2	Jon Liberman	Present	11
Liz Amsden	Present	8	Monica Massey	Absent	12
Julie Burg	Absent	10	Michael Menjivar	Excused	4
Kevin Davis	Absent	1	William Morrison	Present by Phone	8
Adrienne Edwards	Absent	6	Carol Newman	Present	3
Amy Foell	Present by Phone 10:27	7	Christopher Perry	Absent	9
Cindy Wu Freeman	Absent	2	Ava Post	Absent	6
Craig Goldfarb	Absent	12	Rick Ramirez	Present by Phone	1
Valaida Gory	Present	10	Barbara Ringuette	Present	7
Jay Handal	Excused	11	Marcus Rodriguez	Absent	7
Jeanette Hopp	Absent	4	Danielle Sandoval	Present by Phone	12
James Hornik	Absent	6	Patrick Seamans	Absent	5
Jack Humphreville	Excused	5	Lynda Valencia	Excused	8
Ann Job	Absent	1	Krisna Velasco	Absent	2
Howard Katchen	Present by Phone 10:29	4	Joanne Yvanek-Garb	Present Arrived 10:35 am	3
Jacqueline Kennedy	Present	11	Vacant Seat		3
Brigette Kidd	Absent	9	Vacant Seat		10

- 1. Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 10:20 am by Co-Chair Liz Amsden.
- 2. Roll Call** – There was no quorum with only 12 board members present or on the phone (see list above). Newly appointed Budget Representative Dr. Princess Sykes from Harbor Gateway North, and John Darnell, Neighborhood Council Advocate, from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) were also present.
- 3. Public Comment** – Danielle Sandoval had attended the most recent Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) meeting and advised that a committee to include 2 NC representatives from each region would be established to discuss more equitable ways of funding NCs (which range in size from under 4,000 to over 104,000. No process for appointing those representatives was established.
- 4. Approval of Minutes from Meeting #22 (June 5th)** – There was not a quorum.
- 5. Treasurer's Report and Motion to Approve** – Treasurer Howard Katchen – There were no changes and no quorum.
- 6. Report on funding of Budget Advocates by Neighborhood Councils** – Howard still waiting on DONE for updates.

**7. Review and motion to submit BAs' response to the CAO's response on the White Paper**

Waiting on the meeting with the CAO to get an understanding of how they evaluated the Budget Advocates' recommendations. The meeting was supposed to be this week but has now been moved to Monday, June 19th.

**8. Update on Jack and Brian's CityWatch articles – Both Jack and Brian absent. Tabled**

**9. Review and approval of agendas and timing for Budget Day plenary session, break-out sessions and initial meeting of incoming Budget Advocates**

The agenda is not yet locked. Jay will MC rather than have multiple Budget Advocates introduce the speakers to expedite the program. Barbara wanted more Budget Advocates to speak. Jon brought up concerns on the AV set up and it was suggested that anyone hard of hearing might want to sit near Patrick to take advantage of his transcription.

**10. Discuss and approval of Budget Day hand-outs**

Liz will finalize Danielle's tri-fold and get it to DONE to be copied. The mayor's budget team will provide a hand-out with the City's budget timeline. Barbara is preparing a list of links that might be helpful to those attending.

**11. Updates on final confirmations regarding Budget Day logistics**

Pretty much covered by those who signed up on the google doc Jay posted.

**12. List of Budget Reps to date, suggestions on potential Budget Advocate candidates – Every BA should be contacting NCs who have not submitted the names of two Budget Reps to obtain names and contact info as well as encouraging board members and stakeholders to attend Budget Day.**

**13. Discussion and possible vote on motion addressing public participation at City Council meetings – Not addressed.**

**14. Report back on any response to the Budget Advocates' motion that no City entity be allowed to request NC funding for material that should be provided for in their budget – Has not been distributed. Liz to ask Jay to finalize and get it out asap.**

**15. Report back on developing a more equitable funding model for Neighborhood Councils**

This became more of a general discussion with a consensus that needs differ between the NCs based on population and demographics. BONC/DONE need get NC input to figure out basic needs for each NC then come up with a formula for the balance. Certain items such as election support could be handled by DONE for all NCs. There has been an improvement of MERs with the transition of NC funding to the City Clerk and an upgrade of their computer program. Still need clarification of funding spending and increased transparency.

**16. Discussion on transition to incoming Budget Advocates**

Once the new Budget Advocates are elected, the new executive board will set a retreat for the new and returning Budget Advocated to meet and, presumably, call on those who have been discussing training to incorporate these suggestions. Also, to copy and distribute hand-outs explaining processes and providing links to necessary information to help improve the learning curve.

**17. New Business**

Barbara Ringuette suggested that a vote on the outstanding motions could be done as a doodle. This would require the participation of 14 or more Budget Advocates to reach quorum. Liz to talk to Jay.

**18. Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 11:27 pm. This is the final meeting of the 2016-2017 Budget Advocates. The first meeting of the 2017-2018 Budget Advocates will take place at 1230 pm on Budget Day, Saturday, June 24th in City Hall.

Respectfully submitted, Sheryl Akerblom  
for the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates