



Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates

www.BudgetAdvocates.org

Zoom Meeting

February 17, 2024, 9:30 a.m.

Meeting #13 Minutes

Board Members	Roll Call	Region	Board Members	Roll Call	Region
Kevin Davis	Present	1	Barbara Ringuette	Excused	7
Cindy Cleghorn	Present	1	David Hunter	Absent	7
Lionel Mares	Present	1	Connie Acosta	Absent	7
Brian Allen	Absent	2	Lynda Valencia	Present	8
Garry Fordyce	Present	2	-----	-----	8
Scott Wright	Absent	2	-----	-----	8
Glenn Bailey	Present	3	Elias Garcia	Absent	9
David Uebersax	Present	3	-----	-----	9
Jamie York	Absent	3	-----	-----	9
Howard Katchen	Absent	4	Jennifer Goodie	Absent	10
Brandon Pender	Present	4	Skei Saulnier	Present	10
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Jack Humphreville	Present	5	Jay Handal	Present	11
-----	-----	5	Kay Hartman	Present	11
-----	-----	5	Adriana de la Cruz	Present	11
Ernesto Castro	Absent	6	Sheryl Akerblom	Present	12
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- I. Welcome and Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Kay Hartman at 9:37 a.m., with a full quorum in attendance.
- II. Roll Call – See above
 - A. Also in attendance were: Dave Brown (North Hills West Neighborhood Council) and Budget Representative Miran Kalaydjian (Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council / President, Winnetka Neighborhood Council).
- III. MOTION to approve minutes from meeting #10 from December 16, 2023, meeting #11 from January 20, 2024, meeting #12 from February 5 – No minutes ready to approve.
- IV. Public Comment – None
- V. Announcements
 - A. Announcements from DONE (John Darnell)
 1. John Darnell asked Glenn to share updates regarding their recent Budget Day meeting.
 2. Adriana del la Cuz shared that meetings to plan the Congress of Neighborhoods are being held on Zoom the first Saturday of each month, at 1:30 p.m.

- B. Glenn Bailey shared that item A under New Business from Meeting #12 (CAO Letter on Fiscal Concerns and Prioritization of Critical Hiring - CF23-0600-S115 and Controller Response to CAO Letter) should have been listed under Council Files. Jack shared an update on the item, predicting that the budget will be worse than projected, since many items must be shifted to accommodate the City's homeless efforts. The CAO said \$73 million had been put aside for this year's labor contract but that more was needed. Jack said these funds were re-appropriated from the previous year and that the City prefers not to tip their hand by allowing for budget increases.
- C. Jay Handal reported that the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) will be meeting on May 6 at 8:00 a.m. with Dr. Adams Kellum of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), Homelessness Deputy Amy Perkins and possibly the Deputy Mayor. This event will be held at the Belmont, on Wilshire Boulevard in Westwood, with discussion on LAHSA accountability and where the money is going.

VI. New Business – None

VII. Old Business

- A. Vacancies (Cindy Cleghorn) - Seeking Budget Advocates for the following regions – One each in regions 4, 10 and 12, and two each in regions 5, 6, 8, and 9. Election(s) in progress – update
 - 1. Cindy will reach out to an individual who has expressed interest.
- B. CF 11-1020-S3 (Budget Advocacy vs. Advocates) and NC Contributions
 - 1. Latest DONE proposal
 - a) Progress was being made, but Kay and Glenn stopped hearing back from DONE on the matter. Another meeting could provide the opportunity to formalize the changes, moving forward.

“One solution is to add another category to state **"Neighborhood Council Budget Day in the amount of:**

“We can also include a statement in the form that explicitly conveys, 'By checking 'Neighborhood Council Budget Day,' you will be contributing to cover expenses associated with Budget Day, additional Budget workshops, and essential administrative needs.”
- C. Update on the opening of new Council File 24-0600 for FY 2024-2025 Budget
 - 1. The Council File has not yet been included in the City Clerk notification. Several current and past neighborhood council presidents from Councilmember Blumenfield's district are working on it.
- D. Meeting with Mayor Bass
 - 1. Kay has received no response since putting in the initial request. She recommends against pursuing it until the White Paper has been distributed. David Uebersax offered a follow-up contact, when appropriate.
- E. Town Hall on the DONE Budget Proposal for FY 2024-2025
 - 1. Need DONE to settle on a date
 - a) The department has stopped responding on the issue and has scheduled a training session on one of the proposed dates.
- F. Town Hall on the Mayor's FY 2024-2025 Proposed Budget
 - 1. CAO suggests this happens after the budget is presented to Budget, Finance, and Innovation, a date which is not known at this time.
 - a) Kay brought up the issue at the CAO budget meeting and was told the document would be presented first to the Budget and Finance Committee, but that a Town Hall would be possible after that was done.
 - b) Budget and Finance Committee meetings on the new budget usually begin a week after the budget's release and run for about two weeks, before presenting the document to the City Council.
 - c) The Budget and Finance Committee then distributes their own recommendations.
 - d) Kay has contacted potential speakers including Matt Hale and Bernyce Hollins, with no responses to date.

Motion by Glenn Bailey to hold the Town Hall at 12:30 p.m. or later on April 27, second by Garry Fordyce, passed with 13 yes, 0 no, and 1 abstention.

- G. Town Hall or partner with another NC organization on a Town Hall on the subject of the Controller's audit of the LAPD's Air Support Division (helicopters) (CF 23-1422)
 - 1. Glenn Bailey has been spreading the word and no Neighborhood Councils or Alliances have volunteered to move it forward.
 - 2. Anyone willing to arrange the event is invited to step up and contact Kay to do so.
 - 3. No objections were raised to adjusting the regular meeting time, should the morning of March 16 be the only option.
- H. Department Meetings
 - 1. 2024-2025 Department Budget Requests
 - 2. We need to get the white paper out in February.
 - 3. White Paper theme is "*Who is Doing the Work?*"

VIII. Committee Reports

- A. Executive Committee (Kay Hartman/Glenn Bailey) – The committee will not be meeting in February.
- B. Finance Committee (Brian Allen) – Not present
- C. Outreach Committee (Jennier Goodie) – Not present
- D. Bylaws Committee (Cindy Cleghorn) Not present
- E. Training and Education Committee (Kevin Davis) – No new information
- F. Ad Hoc Editing Committee
 - 1. Kay distributed information to the committee on where to find draft reports, where to leave the edited reports and how to enter information into the spreadsheet so it can be accessed by everyone.
- G. Ad Hoc Budget Day Planning Committee with John Darnell – next meeting 2/11/2024 at 10 am
 - 1. It has been confirmed that Channel 35 will be covering the event for free, including attendee interviews. John is working with the appropriate departments in compiling information to finalize a budget.

IX. Informational Items

- A. Controller Report Relative to Recommendations to more effectively Prepare the City of Los Angeles for Emergencies - CF 22-1258
- B. Controller's Revenue Forecast
- C. L.A. REPAIR Cohort 1 Program design and voting results. - CF 21-1187
- D. Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes
- E. Mayor's 2023-2024 Budget Summary
- F. First Financial Status Report for Fiscal Year 2023-24 (127 pages) – CF 23-0600-S110
- G. Mayor's Executive Directive #5 "Improving Customer Service" (MyLA311) issued October 30, 2023
- H. Controller Preliminary Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 – CF 23-0600-S108
- I. Mayor's 2024-2025 Budget Letter
- J. CAO's Second Financial Status Report (FSR) (86 pages) - CF 23-0600-S113
- K. Controller's Audit on LAPD Air Support Division (helicopters) – CF 23-1422-Controller's webpage
- L. Human Resources Payroll Project delay - CF 20-0313-S10
- M. CF 23-1187 Updated Citywide Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts Policy
- N. Controller Mejia shared this link: "City of LA Staffing Vacancies by Department"
- O. CAO Letter on Fiscal Concerns and Prioritization of Critical Hiring - CF23-0600-S115
- P. Controller Response to CAO Letter
- Q. CAO Letter on Fiscal Concerns and Prioritization of Critical Hiring – CF 23-0600-S115 and Controller Response to CAO Letter - Jack Humphreville
- R. Traci Park Budget Survey
- S. Any new Council Files?

X. Upcoming Meetings and Events

- A. ~~BONC Monday February 19, 2024 1:00 at City Hall CANCELED (HOLIDAY)~~
- B. BONC Tuesday February 20, 2024 1:00 p.m.
- C. Budget Advocates March 4, 2024 7:00 p.m.
- D. NC Budget Day: Saturday, June 15, 2024

XI. Items for Future Meeting Agendas

- A. Email items to LABudgetAdvocates@gmail.com

XII. Adjournment – Co-Chair Kay Harman adjourned the meeting at 10:38 a.m.

Next meeting on March 4, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes of Budget Advocate Meeting #13 (February 17, 2024)

ELSPETH WEINGARTEN

February 24, 2024