

Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates

www.BudgetAdvocates.org

**Zoom Meeting
August 2, 2021, 7:00 p.m.
Meeting #3 Minutes**



Board Members	Roll Call	Region	Board Members	Roll Call	Region
Kevin Davis	Present 7:15	1	Barbara Ringuette	Present	7
Lanira Murphy	Absent	1	Ronee Reece	Excused	7
Emilie Hill	Present	1	David Hunter	Present	7
Brian Allen	Present	2	Jamie Tijerina	Absent	8
Glenn Bailey	Present	2	Liz Amsden	Present	8
Garry Fordyce	Present	2	-----	-----	8
Carol Newman	Present	3	Elias Garcia	Present	9
Lee Blumenfeld	Present	3	Elice Hennessee	Excused	9
-----	-----	3	Leslie Gamero	Present 7:54	9
-----	-----	4	Jennifer Goodie	Present	10
Howard Katchen	Excused	4	Edmond Warren	Absent	10
Brandon Pender	Excused	4	Hugo Rodriguez	Absent	10
Jack Humphreville	Present till 7:53	5	Jay Handal	Present till 8:30	11
-----	-----	5	Kay Hartman	Present	11
Daniel Perez	Present	5	Jon Liberman	Present	11
Ernesto Castro	Present	6	Danielle Sandoval	Present 7:08	12
Naira Harootunian	Absent	6	Sheryl Akerblom	Present	12
Margarita Lopez	Absent	6	Gina Martinez	Present	12

I. Welcome and Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Jennifer Goodie at 7:03pm, with a full quorum reached at that time.

II. Roll Call: See above for Roll Call.

Budget Reps present were: Josh Nadel (Palms NC), Adriana de la Cruz (Mar Vista del Rey NC), and John DiGregorio (Panorama City NC).

Also present were guests: Steve Slutzah (Canoga Park NC) and Gerry.

III. Welcome new Budget Advocates from Region 1 Emilie Hill and Kevin Davis.

IV. Public Comment on non-agenda items: Kay Hartman.

V. Rescheduling of Monday, September 6th, 2021:

A. Suggested alternative is Monday, August 30th, 7:00pm

Jay moved to reschedule the next meeting to the suggested alternative date of Monday, August 30. Jennifer seconded.

MOTION PASSED, with 8 for, 5 opposed and 4 abstentions.

- VI. Removal of Edmond Warren and Naira Harootunian: Both members were contacted via phone and e-mail a month ago, when the Executive Committee voted to proceed with their removal. Neither responded.

All members in question were contacted at that time. Extenuating circumstances, desire to continue as a Budget Advocate and subsequent attendance were taken into account.

Jay moved to remove both Edmond Warren and Naira Harootunian as members of the Budget Advocates. Carol seconded.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY, with a Roll Call votes of 18 for and no abstentions.

A. Edmond has missed the last 13 consecutive meetings.

B. Naira has missed the last 15 consecutive meetings.

- VII. Update on July 27 meeting with DONE General Manager Raquel Beltran:

Discussed the relationship of how DONE will be supporting the Budget Advocates going forward; touched on financial issues, including bill-paying; and discussed Budget Day. John Darnell will be the point person to assist with requests including Zoom, e-blasting and publicizing DONE venues. Zoom accounts were requested to accommodate seven or eight breakout sessions. A staff person will be assigned to help with logistical, back-end duties for each room.

Raquel expressed desire to mediate with the Budget Advocates and expressed support for efforts that include contact with Neighborhood Councils. A third-party mediator has been recommended, but additional private sessions are likely before that point.

E-mail Jennifer, Carol and Glenn with thoughts, recommendations and critiques.

- VIII. Budget Day -- August 21st 9:30am-12:30pm:

A. Theme: "We Dodged a Bullet This Year. When Will the Spaghetti and Meatballs Hit the Fan?"

B. Program (including plenary and Regional break-out sessions)

Jennifer shared the proposed program for Budget Day.

C. Revised Budget

Jennifer shared the revised budget for Budget Day. Rates for translation services have increased. Services will be requested for breakout rooms, as requested only.

D. Advertising plan - Kay

Kay discussed her plan to publicize Budget Day, which includes distributing Save-the-dates, creating videos, developing an EventBrite page and posting on social media, such as Twitter, Facebook and Instagram, through which she would follow (and follow-back) Neighborhood Councils to make posts visible. Kay encouraged members to participate in this promotion and she will write material for members to use on Nextdoor and as announcements for their Neighborhood Councils. Those interested in helping should contact Kay directly.

E. Article for publication “Budget Day is Back”

Kay moved to approve the article for publishing in CityWatch.
Jon seconded.

Liz added that the publishing of this article includes preapproval, in concept, of similar articles to be published on Aug. 11 and 18 in City Watch, subject to the approval of the Budget Advocate committee and the Budget Day Committee.

Discussion on the issue.

Kay WITHDREW her motion.
Jon WITHDREW his second.

Kay moved that Budget Advocates approve the budget and approve the article for publication in CityWatch, as long as it gets a byline saying that it’s by Budget Advocates.

Jennifer moved to amend the motion to say that “the article be approved for publishing,” but not for a specific platform.

Kay accepted the amendment.

Jon accepted the amendment.

Liz moved to amend the motion to add “and similar articles”.

Kay accepted the amendment.

Jon accepted the amendment.

Jennifer moved to include agenda items BCDE and A into the motion, making the final wording a motion: that Budget Advocates approve the theme, the budget, the

advertising plan, the program in concept, and this article and similar articles for publishing, as long as it gets a byline saying that it's by Budget Advocates.
Kay accepted the amendment.
Jon accepted the amendment.

VOTE on the motion:

MOTION PASSED, with 15 for, 1 opposed and 4 abstentions.

The date of Aug. 21 will be added to the graphic. Anyone wanting to have a voice and to participate in making changes should attend the meeting this Saturday.

F. Call for Budget Day committee members - Barbara and Jon

Additional help is needed on the Budget Day Committee. Those interested in participating should contact Barbara.

IX. White Paper/Department Reports:

A. What model? Department reports, topics, cross-department, etc.

Jennifer moved that Budget Advocates move forward with the White Paper and departmental reports. And that if somebody wants to do a topic-based or cross-departmental report, that it's brought to the full board before moving forward with it. Kay seconded.

MOTION PASSED, with 14 for and 5 abstentions.

More training will be provided on preparing a White Paper and sample White Papers will be distributed, with a template to use.

X. Congress of Neighborhoods - Saturday, September 25, 2021:

A. Are we going to participate in a workshop and/or as an exhibitor?

Budget Advocates are invited to participate as an exhibitor for Congress of Neighborhoods to distribute information about the group throughout various Zoom rooms.

Jennifer moved that Budget Advocate participate, doing the session that Jack has already set up, and as an exhibitor. Volunteers will be asked to man the exhibitor booth and the Outreach Committee will provide digital assets for distribution. Jon seconded.

Kay moved to amend the motion to state, "staff" the exhibitor's booth.
Jennifer and Jon accepted the amendment.

MOTION PASSED, with 5 for, 2 opposed and 1 abstention.

- XI. NCBA Committees: Budget Advocates are asked to pick three departments, order them in preference and e-mail their choices to Barbara by Friday. The Executive Committee will distribute assignments to ensure coverage. Budget Reps and Stakeholders are invited to participate. Additional help is needed on the Budget and Outreach committees and someone is needed to write a monthly, or bi-monthly, Budget Advocate report. Glenn will work with Kay and Barbara to prepare something for August.
- XII. Committee Reports:
A. Outreach-Budget Advocate promo video: Members available to record four-minute scripted segments on who Budget Advocates are and what they do should contact Liz.

Jennifer postponed all outstanding agenda items to the next meeting on August 30.

B. Bylaws Committee update: Since Budget Day planning is a priority for August, the Bylaws Committee will resume meetings after the event.
- XIII. End of Fiscal Year 2020-21 and July 2021 Financial Reports: Item postponed to next meeting.
- XIV. Minutes for Meeting #1 July 5, 2021:
Liz asked that Connie Calderon and Adriana de la Cruz be designated as Budget Reps, under item B.

Jennifer moved to approve the minutes with those amendments
MOTION PASSED, with 15 for and 5 abstentions.
- XV. 2020-21 Wrap Up: Item postponed to next meeting.

A. What did we do right?
B. What do we need to improve?
- XVI. Adjournment:
Jennifer moved to adjourn at 9:11pm.
Kay seconded.

Next meeting is Budget Day 9:30 am, on Aug. 21.
Following board meeting will be Aug. 30 at 7pm, to vote on financial reports.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:
Minutes of Budget Advocate meeting #3 (Aug 2)

ELSPETH WEINGARTEN
Aug 11, 2021