



# Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates

www.BudgetAdvocates.org

**Zoom Meeting  
January 2, 2023, 7:00 p.m.  
Meeting #12 Minutes**

Board Members	Roll Call	Region	Board Members	Roll Call	Region
Kevin Davis	Present	1	Barbara Ringuette	Present	7
Cindy Cleghorn	Present	1	David Hunter	Present	7
Vacant Seat	-----	1	Vacant Seat	-----	7
Brian Allen	Absent	2	Lynda Valencia	Present	8
Garry Fordyce	Present	2	Samantha McBride	Excused	8
Scott Wright	Present	2	Vacant Seat	-----	8
Glenn Bailey	Present	3	Elias Garcia	Present	9
David Uebersax	Present	3	Vacant Seat	-----	9
Vacant Seat	-----	3	Vacant Seat	-----	9
Howard Katchen	Present	4	Jennifer Goodie	Present	10
Brandon Pender	Present	4	Vacant Seat	-----	10
Myrra Bolla	Present 7:27	4	Vacant Seat	-----	10
Jack Humphreville	Present till 8:13	5	Jay Handal	Excused	11
Vacant Seat	-----	5	Kay Hartman	Present	11
Vacant Seat	-----	5	Adriana de la Cruz	Excused	11
Ernesto Castro	Absent	6	Sheryl Akerblom	Excused	12
Vacant Seat	-----	6	Vacant Seat	-----	12
Vacant Seat	-----	6	Vacant Seat	-----	12

- I. Welcome and Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Jennifer Goodie at 7:05 pm, with a full quorum in attendance.
- II. Roll Call: See above.  
Also in attendance were: Alex Garay (President, Encino Neighborhood Council), and former Budget Advocate Liz Amsden (Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council).
- III. Minutes: Jennifer moved to approve the minutes for meetings #9, #10 and #11 on November 7, November 19 and December 5, with the edits sent to Sheryl. Howard seconded.  
MOTION PASSED, with 12 for and 3 abstentions.
- IV. Public Comment:
  - A. Liz requested examination of Mayor Bass's consideration on housing and how it will affect the City. The item will be discussed at the next Executive Committee meeting to determine whether an ad hoc committee should investigate the issue.

- V. Vacancies: Vacancies, seeking Budget Advocates for the following regions – One each in regions 1, 3, 7, and 8, two each in regions 5, 6, 9, 10, and 12.
  - A. Reach out to Glenn Bailey, Kay Hartman, and Jennifer Goodie.
- VI. Update on CF 11-1020-S3 – No changes have been made to the Council File. Raquel has conceded that Neighborhood Councils will be able to donate funds to the Budget Advocates and that Budget Advocates will then receive those funds. The Executive Committee will discuss the matter further.
  - A. [Ordinance suggested by Elise Ruden](#)

**Added Agenda Item:**

- (a) Town Hall: Raquel has requested a repeat of last year’s Town Hall, in which she presented DONE’s budget request, received the Budget Advocates’ response and answered public questions.

Jennifer Goodie moved to hold a Town Hall on February 18. Kay Hartman seconded.

Jennifer rescinded her motion.

Jennifer moved to hold a Town Hall on the topic of DONE’s 2023-24 budget on February 11 at 2:00 p.m. Kay seconded.

MOTION PASSED with 15 for and 1 abstention.

Budget Advocates will request two hours for the event to accommodate public questions.

- VII. Meetings with newly elected officials: Mayor Karen Bass, Heidi Feldstein Soto and Kenneth Mejia are being contacted, with follow-up this week. Members may compile questions for Heidi, in preparation for her upcoming presentations at Alliance meetings.
- VIII. Department meetings: Members provided status updates on department meetings and reports.
  - A. [Spreadsheet](#)
  - B. White Paper theme – The theme of “Reset, Refocus, Reform” was selected, with a vote postponed to next meeting. Further details within the title will be confirmed at that time.
    - 1. Suggestions:
      - a. Transitioning
      - b. Ethics, Reform, Transparency, Contract Oversight/Accountability
      - c. On Again/Off Again, Is it Really Over?
      - d. What’s Next?
      - e. Big Changes at City Hall
- IX. 31st Annual Empowerment Congress: The event will be held in person on January 14, 2023. Budget Advocates are invited to attend the workshops.
  - A. <https://empowermentcongress.org/> - [Link here](#)
- X. Committee Reports:
  - A. Executive Committee – Jennifer Goodie & Kay Hartman – The committee met and discussed the Empowerment Congress, themes for the White Paper and meetings with newly elected officials.
  - B. Finance Committee – Brian Allen – Not in attendance to provide a report. Item tabled till next meeting. Members interested in joining the committee should email Brian and copy the Budget Advocates email account.
    - 1. Reconciliation with DONE
    - 2. November 2022 Financial Report
  - C. Outreach – Samantha McBride – not in attendance to provide a report.
  - D. Bylaws – Glenn Bailey – The committee has completed an exhaustive review of the Bylaws. Members are invited to review sections in priority order, beginning with the

Elections and Grievance articles. A [pdf of the Bylaws](#) is available on the Budget Advocates website. Myrra will be added to the committee.

- E. Budget Day – June 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023 – The committee will convene and begin discussion on whether to hold the event virtually, or in person.
  - 1. Volunteers needed for chair and committee – Volunteers are needed for chair and committee members. Jennifer Goodie and Kay Hartman will participate.
- F. Training and Education – Barbara Ringuette – Barbara is available to help members arrange department meetings, create talking points, structure reports and recommendations and move through the writing process.
- G. Ad Hoc Restructuring – David Hunter – Discussion was held on how to use member resources advantageously in restructuring Budget Advocate committees. David Hunter will schedule a meeting for January.

XI. Informational Items:

- A. Controller Report Relative to Recommendations to more effectively Prepare the City of Los Angeles for Emergencies – [CF 22-1258](#)
- B. 1<sup>st</sup> Financial Status Report released – [CF22-0600-S96](#)
- C. 2<sup>nd</sup> Financial Status Report released – [CF22-0600-S99](#)

XII. Upcoming Meetings and Events

- A. BONC: January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 at 6:00 pm
- B. 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Empowerment Congress: January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- C. Budget Advocates: January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023 at 9:30a.m.
- D. BONC: February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 6:00 pm
- E. Budget Day June 17, 2023

XIII. Items for Future Meeting Agendas: Please send items for future agendas to [labudgetadvocates@gmail.com](mailto:labudgetadvocates@gmail.com).

XIV. Adjournment: Jennifer Goodie adjourned the meeting at 8:36 pm.

Next meeting January 21, 2023 at 9:30 am  
Minutes of Budget Advocate meeting #12 (January 2)  
ELSPETH WEINGARTEN  
January 9, 2023