

Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates

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**Neighborhood Empowerment Office, City Hall
200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012
Monday, May 6, 2019 – 7 pm**

Meeting #20 Minutes

| Board Members | Roll Call | Region | Board Members | Roll Call | Region |
|--------------------|-----------|--------|-----------------------|-----------------|--------|
| Kevin Davis | Absent | 1 | Liz Amsden | Present | 8 |
| John DiGregorio | Present | 1 | Jamie Tijerina | Present (7:23) | 8 |
| Rick Ramirez | Absent | 1 | Jose Orozco Pelico | Absent | 8 |
| Brian Allen | Present | 2 | Chelsea McElwee | Excused | 9 |
| Glenn Bailey | Present | 2 | Evelyn Valdez | Present | 9 |
| Jeffrey Mausner | By Phone | 3 | Carol Derby-David | Present | 10 |
| Carol Newman | Excused | 3 | KJ Clark | By phone (7:23) | 10 |
| Joanne Yvanek-Garb | Present | 3 | Erick Morales | Resigned | 10 |
| Jeannette Hopp | Present | 4 | Jay Handal | Absent | 11 |
| Howard Katchen | By phone | 4 | Jacqueline Le Kennedy | By Phone (7:17) | 11 |
| Brandon Pender | By phone | 4 | Jon Liberman | Present | 11 |
| Jack Humphreville | Present | 5 | Melanie Labrecque | Excused | 12 |
| Patrick Seamans | Excused | 5 | Danielle Sandoval | Absent | 12 |
| James Hornik | By phone | 6 | Dr. Princess Sykes | Present | 12 |
| Nina Smith | Excused | 6 | VACANT | | 3 |
| Tony Michaelis | Present | 7 | VACANT | | 5 |
| Barbara Ringuette | Present | 7 | VACANT | | 6 |
| Connie Acosta | Absent | 7 | VACANT | | 9 |

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm
2. Roll Call: see above; a quorum was present throughout; John Darnell of DONE was in attendance.
3. Public Comment (max 2 minutes per person, max 10 minutes in aggregate) - none
4. Minutes from Meeting #11 (December 15th) and Meeting #19 (April 20th): the minutes for Meeting #11 are tabled indefinitely; MOTION by Jon Liberman to approve the minutes for Meeting #19, seconded by Joanne Yvanek-Garb; Carol Derby-David abstained; balance in favor, motion passes
5. Treasurer's report: the discussion and approval of Treasurer's report for the current period was tabled till the next meeting; Howard Katchen reminded all Budget Advocates to request NC funding when they attend meetings; Budget Advocates who will not be returning are requested to turn in their parking passes at their last meeting.
6. Report-back on presentations to the Budget and Finance Committee: there was a very positive response from all members of the Budget and Finance Committee; report-backs

were requested on the Redlining and Revenue papers as well as the White Paper. Others reported there have been a lot of referrals to the White Paper recommendations during departmental presentations; tracking the Budget and Finance Committee's report-back requests for all departments was suggested but dropped due to lack of manpower with Budget Day approaching.

Budget Advocates are requested to read the CAO report on the White Paper and circulate concerns.

7. Second reading and approval of Bylaws amendments
 - (a) to extend the terms of Budget Advocates who choose to continue until Budget Day 2020: MOTION by Brian Allen with Joanne Yvanek-Garb seconding to table the final reading and vote until June 3rd; opposed: John DiGregorio, James Hornik, Barbara Ringuette; abstaining: Jamie Tijerina, Brandon Pender, Liz Amsden; balance in favor, motion passes.
 - (b) to change the term of Budget Representatives from one year to 'until replaced pursuant to the wishes of their Neighborhood Council. MOTION by John DiGregorio, seconded by Dr Sykes; KJ Clark abstained; balance in favor, motion passes.
8. How to elect Budget Advocates through Budget Day 2020: the elections of vacant or all Budget Advocate seats will be at Budget Day 2019; absentee nominations will be accepted as well as nominations from the floor; statements from candidates may be submitted ahead of time; details be circulated to all board members along with a list of what Budget Advocates and Budget Representatives do; any seats remaining vacant will be filled in July by online election.
9. Budget Day 2019
 - (a) status speakers: Ron Galperin and Grayce Liu have accepted; Paul Krekorian will be out of town; Barbara will follow up with the remaining electeds with the understanding that invitations to speak are not transferable without Budget Advocate approval; Kerry Cavanaugh of the LA Times is out of town, Jack Humphreville is following up with alternate speakers.
 - (b) report-back on save-the-date flyer: John DiGregorio circulated a revised version during the meeting, once approved, it will be sent to all NC board members
 - (c) report back on setting up an integrated website to take RSVPs, generate check-in lists, badges and parking passes: the website is up and active; the other items are in process
 - (d) report back on publicity: need to update and circulate press release, target press to invite to attend
 - (e) report back on development of tri-folds and other marketing material: Liz Amsden will circulate to the Executive Committee for input and approval this week
 - (f) other assignments: Barbara Ringuette will coordinate assignments; John Darnell will check how many Budget Advocate pins are in stock

10. Outreach

- (a) & (b) All Budget Advocates are requested to solicit people to serve as Budget Representatives and Budget Advocates at all the Neighborhood Councils for which they are responsible; each Neighborhood Councils should appoint or elect two Budget Representatives; a list of the obligations of each will be circulated along with the tri-folds to all Neighborhood Councils
- (c) As the DONE training materials for new Neighborhood Council board members have already gone to print, Barbara Ringuette will create a 2-page document about what Budget Representatives and Budget Advocates do to be given to Semee Park for duplication and distribution at all future trainings this cycle
- (d) No report on CityWatch articles
- (e) Brandon Pender is updating the Budget Advocate radio advertising campaign to promote Budget Day with interviews late May into June and ads starting two weeks prior to Budget Day

- 11. City clearance of City property of brush/grasses: Tony Michaelis will follow up with Street Services to determine responsible department so the dual issues of fire danger and lawsuits can be addressed.
- 12. Status of Budget Advocate accomplishments: Barbara Ringuette will request the CAO reports for the past five years in Excel so that John DiGregorio can analyze the successes of the Budget Advocates.
- 13. Status of Budget Advocate Fellowship Program: Tony Michaelis advises that his contact at Cal State LA may not be teaching the graduate course in budgeting and financial administration in the fall but will keep in touch and reach out to similar programs in other schools.
- 14. New Business: Jeanette Hopp and Dr. Sykes put forth a motion requesting the Co-Chairs remain available for at least 3 months so their institutional knowledge is not lost; a vote was not taken since the Bylaws (Article IV, Section 9) already require retiring officers serve as an informal resource to the new officers; Liz Amsden reported that Erick Morales has stepped down as a Budget Advocate and as Secretary due to travel commitments.
- 15. The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 pm

Our next meeting will be at 10 am on Saturday, May 18th at the West LA Municipal Building.