

# Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates

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

Monday, December 5, 2016

7:00 pm

## Minutes

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

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 7:15 pm by Co-Chair Liz Amsden.
2. **Roll Call**: A quorum of 30 board members was present (see list above). Mike Fong, DONE's Director of Policy and Government Relations, was also present.
3. **Public Comment** – None
4. **Approval of Minutes from Meetings #9 (Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>)** – Approval of the minutes for meeting #9, Saturday, November 19, 2016.

Motion by **Ann Job** to approve the minutes for meeting #9, Saturday, November 19, 2016, second by **Jon Liberman**, and passed with 22 yeses (Ale, Amsden, Burg, Edwards, Foell, Gory, Handal, Hopp, Hornik, Job, Kennedy, Kidd, Kirkwood, Liberman, Massey, Menjvar, Morrison, Newman, Ramirez, Ringuette, Rodriguez, Sandoval, and Valencia), 0 noes, 5 abstentions (Allen, Best, Wu Freeman, Goldfarb, and Seamans), with 2 not yet present (Velasco, and Yvanek-Garb).

5. **Treasurer's Report** - Howard Katchen, Treasurer  
No report. Still waiting for more information from Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) to finalize the report. Mike Fong will help follow up.

Motion by **Jeanette Hopp** to approve the existing treasurers report, second by **Brian Allen**, and passed with 22 yeses (Ale, Allen, Amsden, Burg, Edwards, Foell, Gory, Handal, Hopp, Hornik, Job, Kennedy, Kidd, Kirkwood, Massey, Menjvar, Morrison, Newman, Ramirez, Ringuette, Rodriguez, Sandoval, and Valencia), 0 noes, 5 abstentions (Best, Wu Freeman, Goldfarb, Liberman, and Seamans), with 2 not yet present (Velasco, and Yvanek-Garb).

6. **Housekeeping**
  - a. Status of BAs' certifications – If you have not completed, please do so. Jon will follow up with DONE on these
  - b. Speaker Phone – No phone system has yet been purchased.
  - c. Filing Cabinet – Jay can have one or more donated, he needs a truck for pickup.
  - d. Headshots – If you have not yet provided a headshot please get one to Liz.
  
7. **Review list of NCs which have NOT been visited by a current Budget Advocate and address why**  
 BAs need to make an effort to get to meetings of NCs none of us have visited; introduce ourselves, establish a dialogue with their Budget Reps, or if they have none, encourage their president and treasurer to have Budget Reps nominated moving forward.
  
8. **Reports on material issues regarding connecting with Budget Reps, Neighborhood Councils and Alliances** – None
  
9. **Outreach:**
  - a. Newsletter status: Jay should have the next one out tomorrow; the third survey went out over the weekend
  - b. Facebook page: Adrienne asked everyone on Facebook to like the City of Los Angeles Budget Advocates Facebook page.
  - c. Creating link to NCBALA for NCs/city council offices/departments to post: Joanne will follow up with the Councilmembers' Communications Directors why they have not put this information out
  
10. **Discussion and possible motion to use CityWatch as a marketing and branding tool with articles, banners and surveys, for the budget Advocates. Approximate cost up to \$5,000.00**  
 Adrienne will coordinate the campaign, and Jacqueline will help. Some of CityWatch' regular writers will help with editing. We can use to introduce the Budget Advocates to a wider audience and thank the Councilmembers and Departments who do good work.  
 Motion by **Jeanette Hopp** to approve to use CityWatch as a marketing and branding tool with articles, banners and surveys, for the budget Advocates. Cost not to exceed \$5,000.00, second by **Brian Allen**, and passed with 24 yeses (Ale, Allen, Amsden, Edwards, Foell, Wu Freeman, Goldfarb, Gory, Handal, Hopp, Hornik, Job, Kennedy, Kidd, Kirkwood, Liberman, Menjvar, Newman, Ramirez, Ringuette, Rodriguez, Sandoval, Seamans, and Valencia), 0 noes, 2 abstentions (Best and Massey), 2 out of room (Burg and Morrison) with 2 not yet present (Velasco, and Yvanek-Garb).
  
11. **Bylaws**  
 See attachment for language as adopted. Bylaws require a two thirds majority of those present at each of two consecutive regularly scheduled board meetings.  
 Motion by **Jon Liberman** to amend to change the work "WILL" to "SHALL" as shown above, second by **Barbara Ringuette**, and passed with 29 yeses (Ale, Allen, Amsden, Best, Burg, Edwards, Foell, Wu Freeman, Goldfarb, Gory, Handal, Hopp, Hornik, Job, Kennedy, Kidd, Kirkwood, Liberman, Massey, Menjvar, Morrison, Newman, Ramirez, Ringuette, Rodriguez, Sandoval, Seamans, Valencia, and Yvanek-Garb), 0 noes, 0 abstentions, with 1 not yet present (Velasco).  
 Motion by **Jon Liberman** to approve the bylaws as amended, second by **Barbara Ringuette**, and passed with 29 yeses (Ale, Allen, Amsden, Best, Burg, Edwards, Foell, Wu Freeman, Goldfarb, Gory, Handal, Hopp, Hornik, Job, Kennedy, Kidd, Kirkwood, Liberman, Massey, Menjvar, Morrison, Newman, Ramirez, Ringuette, Rodriguez, Sandoval, Seamans, Valencia, and Yvanek-Garb), 0 noes, 0 abstentions, with 1 not yet present (Velasco).
  
12. **Electeds' & Candidates' Survey update** – review and motion to approve proposed questions as amended (see attachment).

Motion by **Jon Liberman** to approve the Electeds' and Candidates' Survey, second by **Joanne Yvanek-Garb**, and passed with 30 yeses (Ale, Allen, Amsden, Best, Burg, Edwards, Foell, Wu Freeman, Goldfarb, Gory, Handal, Hopp, Hornik, Job, Kennedy, Kidd, Kirkwood, Liberman, Massey, Menjvar, Morrison, Newman, Ramirez, Ringuette, Rodriguez, Sandoval, Seamans, Valencia, Velasco, and Yvanek-Garb), 0 noes, and 0 abstentions.

Jon will do a cover letter so it is clear to the recipients how to fill out and return.

13. **Stakeholder Survey update** – Danielle Sandoval, Chair
  - a. Response so far – Still very low numbers but increasing. Ann to talk to Tony about accessing Fuentes' district.
  - b. Budget Advocates to contact respective NCs/Councilmembers' offices/City departments to add request/link to survey to their newsletters and websites – Joanne will re-contact councilmember communications people who said they would put on their sites and in their newsletters.
  - c. The survey cards are delayed at the printers.
  - d. How to reach outside the City system? – Social media, Nextdoor, friends, neighbors, family, book clubs and other group activities, etc.
  - e. The next survey will be on Homelessness. Danielle needs 8 to 10 broad hard-hitting questions addressing all aspects of the issues – housing, demand on City services, business impact, etc. – requested all BAs to submit questions to her.
14. **Committee Reports**

Liz asked that all committees submit their reports asap. A couple of committees are still to meet with departments (scheduled for this week). Marcus will send out a list of not yet submitted department reports.
15. **White Paper Update** – Marcus Rodriguez  
Marcus will send out the template to all with the list from above
16. **Status letter to Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) to discuss issues**

Barbara has tried three times to make contact without success including leaving messages and sending e-mails. Jay spoke to Sam Appel who will speak to the director to set up a meeting with Peter Lynn the director.
17. **Status Regional Budget Day Plans**

Confirmed scheduled for the morning of Saturday, February 25, 2017. Regions 1-4 have reserved the Braude Center in Van Nuys, need to address parking; Regions 5&6 exploring having this as a family day at the LA Zoo; Regions 7&8 are set at the Glassell Park Senior Center; Regions 9&10 waiting for confirmation at the Constituent Center; Region 11 will be at the West LA Municipal Building and Region 12 is hoping to get Tech Park but has the Port of LA as a fallback location. Jay is handling artwork for flyers, postings, etc. but BAs should start getting long-range save-the-date info out through the NCs.
18. **New Business** – None
19. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm. The next scheduled meeting is Saturday, December 17, at the West LA Municipal Building at 10 am.

Respectfully submitted, Sheryl Akerblom  
for the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates