

Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates

www.BudgetAdvocates.org

**Zoom Meeting
July 16th, 2022, 9:30 a.m.
Meeting #2 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	Excused	7
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Brian Allen	Present	2	Lynda Valencia	Present	8
Garry Fordyce	Present	2	Samantha McBride	Present	8
Scott Wright	Present	2	-----	-----	8
Glenn Bailey	Present	3	Elias Garcia	Excused	9
David Uebersax	Excused	3	-----	-----	9
-----	-----	3	-----	-----	9
Howard Katchen	Present	4	Jennifer Goodie	Present	10
Brandon Pender	Present	4	-----	-----	10
Myrra Bolla	Present	4	-----	-----	10
Jack Humphreville	Excused	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 Jennifer Goodie at 9:44 am, with a full quorum in attendance.

II. Roll Call: See above.

Also in attendance were Budget Representatives Miran Kalaydjian (Woodland Hills Warner Center NC), Jamie York (Reseda NC) and Danielle Sandoval (former Budget Advocate).

III. Minutes: Item postponed.

IV. Public Comment: Glenn announced that the DONE strategy and engagement session would be held this afternoon. Anyone interested is invited to attend.

V. Council File 11-1020-S3:

A. Budget Advocates report from 7/5/2022 BONC meeting: A link to the meeting recording is included in the agenda, along with the statement prepared by Glenn, Kay and Jennifer.

B. Discussion and possible action regarding drafting a response to DONE's statement from the 7/1/2022 Monthly NC Update and sending to NCs: Kay has drafted a response to DONE'S four-page statement. This response addresses the legitimacy of Budget Advocates, states the group's purpose and cites the General Manager's acknowledgment that money previously contributed by Neighborhood Councils will remain available to Budget Advocates. An ordinance number will be included.

Jennifer moved to distribute the completed document to all Neighborhood Council board members. Kay seconded.

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY, with 17 for and no abstentions.

Brian moved that Budget Advocates make this document available to the City Council, the Mayor, the Controller and to all elected officials. Garry seconded.

Jay moved to amend the motion to add that Budget Advocates can publish the document on their website. Brian accepted the amendment. Garry accepted the amendment, as second.

Kay moved to amend the original motion to say that Budget Advocates can send the document to members of the press.

Jenifer moved to bifurcate the vote.

APPROVED, with no objections or abstentions.

VOTE on Brian's original motion to distribute the document to elected officials, via email:

MOTION PASSED, with 16 for and 1 abstention.

Second part of the motion:

Brian moved to provide distribution of the document to the general media, including a rewrite to explain the reason for doing so. Garry seconded.

Jennifer suggested preparing the re-craft of the statement with that explanation, then voting on it at the next meeting. Brian accepted
VOTE POSTPONED.

Brian will provide Kay with a sample paragraph.

Glenn moved that Budget Advocates send the document to the candidates, the Mayor, the City Attorney, the City Council, and the City Controller, in addition to the current City elected officials. Jennifer seconded.

Jennifer requested to postpone the motion. Glenn accepted.
MOTION POSTPONED.

Glenn reconsidered the accepted postponement.
Glenn requested that Budget Advocates vote on his motion of sending the statement to the candidates.

Jennifer moved to amend the motion to say that Budget Advocates form an ad hoc committee to craft a cover letter for the opening paragraphs of the statement. Glenn accepted.
Jennifer accepted the motion with the amendment, as the original second.

VOTE on the motion to send the statement to the candidates and to form an ad hoc committee to craft the opening paragraphs and/or a cover letter to City of Los Angeles, including candidates citywide and in City Council.
MOTION PASSED, with 16 for.

Committee Members:

Kay
Jennifer
Glenn
Barbara
Brian
Brandon
Miran

Kay approved Miran participating on the committee, according to the tenant that Budget Representatives can do anything except vote.

A lot of the committee's work will be done over e-mail. If members do not respond promptly, they will be assumed to be in agreement.

C. Discussion and possible action regarding the NC Budget Advocates filing an ethics complaint against Raquel Beltran:

Jennifer moved to file a statement saying that Raquel Beltran qualifies for an ethics complaint. Jay seconded.

Discussion on filing an ethics complaint against Raquel Beltran.

Jennifer moved to postpone the previous motion.
MOTION POSTPONED, with no objections or abstentions.

Jennifer will draft the complaint, with help from anyone interested, and bring it back for future discussion. This will include the option of making a complaint to the Human Resources Department. Those interested in helping should contact labudgetadvocates@gmail.com. Individual members are welcome to file their own complaints using information generated within Budget Advocates.

1. Purpose of the City of Los Angeles Governmental Ethics Ordinance

a) To assure that individuals and interest groups in our society have a fair and equal opportunity to participate in the governmental process.

2. Los Angeles Municipal Code Article 9.5 Section 49.5.5.A

a) City officials, agency employees, appointees awaiting confirmation by the City Council, and candidates for elected City office shall not misuse or attempt to misuse their positions or prospective positions to create or attempt to create a private advantage or disadvantage, financial or otherwise, for any person.

D. Update on CIS for NCs to submit regarding contributing funds to the NC Budget Advocates: As of this morning, nine Neighborhood Councils have posted their CIS's. Suggestion to invite those feeling strongly about it to file individual public comment.

VI. Introductions: Item postponed to next meeting.
No objections raised.

A. Why did you become a Budget Advocate?

B. What would you like to accomplish this term?

C. What City departments are you interested in?

VII. Restructuring of Budget Advocates:

A. This is the beginning of the conversation and we do not expect to make decisions in this meeting.

B. Roles and Responsibilities: A working document was included with the agenda proposing how work could be divided up among members of the Budget Advocates. Discussion will be revisited at the retreat.

C. Meetings: This could also include a restructuring of board meetings.

1. Does all business get addressed in all meetings, or are specific meetings for specific topics?

2. Do we need everyone to attend all meetings?

VIII. Election of NCBA officers for 2022-2023 term: Item postponed to next meeting. No objections raised.

A. Corresponding (Recording) Secretary:

1. The Corresponding Secretary shall ensure that minutes of Board actions and meetings are taken, or take them, and then review them for accuracy, distribute them to all Budget Advocates within three (3) calendar days of receipt of the draft minutes from the note-taker, send the draft minutes to the web host to post on the website and once they are approved at the following meeting, send the final approved minutes with any changes to the web host to post, and distribute digital and all other documents to the BAs as requested. The Secretary will also assist the Co-Chairs with meeting notices as needed, and perform such duties as customarily pertaining to the office.

IX. Reschedule our September 5th meeting (Labor Day):

Jennifer moved to reschedule the September 5 meeting to a Special Meeting on Monday, August 29. Glenn seconded.

MOTION PASSED, with 15 for, 1 opposed and 1 abstention.

X. Retreat: Kay moved that Budget Advocates hold their retreat in place of the next Saturday meeting, on August 20, and that this meeting be scheduled for longer than two hours, starting at 9:30am. Brian seconded.

MOTION PASSED, with 17 for and no abstentions.

XI. Committee Reports:

A. All committees need members. Do you want to join one tonight?

B. Finance Committee:

1. FY 2021-2022 End of Year Financial Report: Brian is seeking closeout data from DONE. The document is in the process of being changed to a financial statement format, which looks to be more transparent.

Over the past year, three Neighborhood Councils voted to contribute to the Budget Advocates, with checks totaling \$6,000, made payable to the group. One is confirmed to have been cashed by June 30. The other remains unconfirmed.

Brian will be doing a complete review of all Finance Committee information received from Lanira.

2. FY 2022-2023 Budget: No documents are ready for distribution, including the budget. The End of Year report has not yet been received from AppleOne.

a) Finance Committee:

Committee Members:

Brian – Chair of Finance Committee

Jennifer

Kay

Glenn

Garry

Miran

C. Outreach: Anyone wanting to get started on work for the Outreach Committee should contact Kay.

D. Bylaws: Item postponed to next meeting.

E. Budget Day: Item postponed to next meeting.

F. Departments: Item postponed to next meeting.

XII. Upcoming Meetings and Events:

A. BONC Monday, July 18th, 1:00 pm: BONC agenda items have been confirmed. Those wanting to support Elias on the Central Alameda Neighborhood Council are invited to inquire regarding his needs.

1. Tentative agenda items include 11-1020-S3, and removal of

five Central Alameda board members

B. Budget Advocates Monday, August 1st, 7:00 pm

C. BONC Monday, August 15th, 1:00 pm: The August 2 BONC meeting is listed as canceled, due to National Night Out.

D. Congress of Neighborhoods Saturday, September 24, 2022

XIII. Future Agendas: E-mail future agenda items to labudgetadvocates@gmail.com.

-Vacancies: Glenn proposed filing vacant seats by holding as many elections as possible simultaneously. Doing so will require assistance from applicable regions in providing the names of all Budget Representatives in the region (on Neighborhood Councils and otherwise) and identifying and notifying Glenn of anyone in the region who would be a good fit for Budget Advocates. Region 7 will be included in the first round of elections. Contact Glenn with any details or contact information. Brian will assist. Request to include this matter on future agendas.

Jennifer requested help with targeted outreach to regions preparing for elections.

XIV. Adjournment: Jennifer adjourned the meeting at 12:09pm.

Next meeting August 1st, 7:00 pm