

Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates

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Neighborhood Empowerment Office, City Hall
200 North Spring Street, Suite 2005, Los Angeles, CA 90012
Monday, January 8, 2018 – 7 pm

Meeting #13 Minutes

Board Members	Roll Call	Region	Board Members	Roll Call	Region
Ivette Ale	Excused	9	Brigitte Kidd	Excused	9
Brian Allen	Absent	2	Janet Kim	Present 8:05 pm	7
Liz Amsden	Present 7:15 pm	8	Melanie Labrecque	Excused	12
Priscilla Anchondo	By phone	3	Jon Liberman	Excused	11
Glenn Bailey	Present 7:30 pm	2	Michael Menjivar	Excused	4
Agnes Copeland	Absent	5	William Morrison	By phone then present	8
Freddy Cupen-Ames	Present	4	Carol Newman	By phone	3
Carol Derby-David	Present	10	Robert Newman	By phone	6
Kevin Davis	By phone 8 pm	1	Christopher Perry	By phone	9
John DiGregorio	Present	1	Rick Ramirez	By phone	1
Adrienne Nicole Edwards	By phone	6	Barbara Ringuette	Present	7
Valaida Gory	Excused	10	Estuardo Ruano	Absent	7
Diedra Greenaway	Absent	2	Danielle Sandoval	By phone	12
Jay Handal	Excused	11	Patrick Seamans	Excused	5
James Hornik	Present	6	Eleanor Smith	Excused	10
Jack Humphreville	Excused	5	Dr. Princess Sykes	Absent	12
Howard Katchen	Excused	4	Lynda Valencia	Present	8
Jacqueline Le Kennedy	Present 7:45 pm	11	Joanne Yvanek-Garb	Absent	3

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by Barbara Ringuette being neither co-chair was present by 7:05 pm.
2. **Roll Call** – A quorum of members was present (see list above). John Darnell, representing DONE, and Annette Ramirez, a stakeholder from Lincoln Heights, were also present.
3. **Public Comment on non-agenda items** – None
4. **Approval of Minutes from Meetings #11 (December 4th) and #12 (December 16th)**
Motion by William Morrison to approve the meeting #11 minutes (as corrected) with James Hornik as 2nd [Liz to check on Grayce Liu's response to the e-mail asking if she had any issue with the Budget Advocates extending their current term to two years through their Bylaws revision – Grayce Liu's e-mail to Liz states she was fine] passed with 0 noes, 4 abstaining (Anchondo, R. Newman, C. Newman, & DiGregorio. Motion by Lynda Valencia, with William Morrison as 2nd to approve the minutes for Meeting #12 minutes (as corrected – Priscilla Anchondo reps Region 3, spelling correction in 12 (c) passed with 0 noes, 2 abstentions (DiGregorio & Cupen-Ames). (15 present)
5. **Treasurer's report** was tabled due to the Treasurer's absence
6. **Discussion on Budget Advocate absences and participation** – Budget Advocates are subject to removal for 4 consecutive or 6 total non-excused absences. Co-Chairs &

Parliamentarian to discuss if Civic U constitutes an excused absence as the Monday meeting in February will also conflict.

7. **Bylaws Committee**
 - a. Article IV: Jon had requested it be amended to 4 consecutive meetings missed to oust the Co-Chairs. Motion by Liz Amsden, 2nd John DiGregorio to add the executive has the option (leaving it at their discretion), 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, passed unanimously.
First reading of Article IV (v.7) as modified as required by the Budget Advocate Bylaws
 - b. First reading of Article III as required by the Budget Advocate Bylaws
8. **Further discussion on and possible motion to approve the instructions for a Grievance Portal for the NCBALA website** – Motion by Carol Newman, 2nd by Lynda Valencia to approve the instructions. Carol Newman and Lynda Valencia to develop a Budget Advocate Grievance Form for Kristina Smith to post. If there is a technical problem, Sevak of DONE should be contacted to help. Complaints about Brown Act compliance will be addressed in the form. 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, motion passed unanimously.
9. **Update on White Paper**
 - a. Status draft White Paper – on hold till Jack Humphreville is back
 - b. What elements of the White Paper and reports to include in the Regional Budget Days.- use Early WP as bullet points
 - c. Some meetings still being set. Will need reports finalized before February 17th.
10. **Motion on City to expedite licensing of marijuana sales**
Motion by **Liz Amsden**, seconded by **William Morrison** [brief discussion that unless this is resolved, a black market will evolve creating more problems] 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, motion passed unanimously.
11. **Motion to request City Council request the state government re-evaluate restricting workers in the cannabis industry to those 21 and older**
Motion by **John DiGregorio** seconded by **William Morrison** 0 opposed, 2 abstentions (Ringuette and Anchondo), motion passes.
12. **Motion on the appointment of a new CAO for the City**
Motion by **Carol Newman**, seconded by **Barbara Ringuette**, 1 opposed (DiGregorio), 0 abstentions, motion passes.
13. **Motion calling for transparency and accountability on the allocation of new City funds**
Motion by **Liz Amsden**, seconded by **Carol Newman** – the issue is actually bigger but will be further addressed in the White Paper – 0 opposed, 0 abstentions, motion passed unanimously.
14. **Motion on homelessness encampments and public safety**
Tabled as no motion had been submitted, probably till after March 5th. Need to check if there is a Council File, especially since the Mayor has set up a committee to address fire concerns, and add the relevant Council File when it put on the agenda again.
15. **Motion on tree stump removal**
The issue is citywide and larger – outside contractors are over trimming some trees and killing them, etc. – to address the bigger picture, set up a committee to review current City policy investigate and draft more complete language including stump removal, outside contractors, sidewalk/road heaving, input from the NC Sustainability Alliances committee on trees, etc. Committee will be composed of Glenn Bailey and John DiGregorio.
16. **Discussion on FUSE recommendations (CF17-1311)** Glenn Bailey, Liz Amsden & Jay Handal will discuss when and whether there is time for the FUSE fellow to present her findings at Budget Advocate meeting. Would be good to know if these recommendations will find their way into the FY 2018-19 Budget and/or into the Budget Advocates' White Paper. Chairs of the Departments listed on page 4 of the recommendations are encouraged to bring up with their

contacts and report back to the Budget Advocates. A committee was set up to address this after delivery of the White Paper, consisting of John DiGregorio, Glenn Bailey and Barbara Ringuette and Danielle Sandoval to chair.

17. Working with Budget Representatives and Neighborhood Councils

- a. The google doc header has been fixed, please refer changes on Budget Reps to Brigette Kidd, copying Jay Handal and Liz Amsden.
- b. John DiGregorio will put up an article about Regional Budget Day on CityWatch, video links are seeing a lot of play but still needs more articles.

18. Regional Budget Day plans

- a. Survey questions need to be finalized and approved; Danielle Sandoval will then set up on Survey Monkey and have Cindy Cleghorn print cards. Need to coordinate tabulation.
- b. Renting tablets for stakeholders to take the survey at the Regional Budget Days would cost approximately \$5K. The survey can be done on stakeholder smart phones and Budget Advocates could bring their own computers/tablets for stakeholders without other access.
- c. Still need confirmation of all venues and times. Point people should send to Danielle Sandoval for publicity. Regions 5&6 and 7&8 are looking to share a space at the LA Zoo. Glassell Park Community Center is the back-up for 7&8. Checking with Jack Humphreville if he reached out to Hollywood City Hall for 5&6.
- d. Budgets need to be sent immediately to Jay Handal who will approve. Howard Katchen will be absent next week so point people need to contact him re: using the P-card to pay for food and supplies. If people use their own money, reimbursement is complicated and time consuming.
- e. Jay Handal will be the point person for hiring note-takers and advise what they should focus on - NO RECORDINGS will be accepted.
- f. Point people should confirm that reps from all Council offices have been invited to at least one Regional Budget Day
- g. Danielle Sandoval is working on the flyer and distribution. It needs to be sent to all Neighborhood Councils and City Council District offices requesting it be featured in their newsletters.
- h. Barbara Ringuette and John DiGregorio are working on recording interviews – will ask what they do for the City budget, what challenges and concerns face the city, and how ordinary people can participate in the process.
- i. Liz Amsden will circulate draft agenda and check with Jay Handal on money remaining to edit the video.
- j. ALL Budget Advocates need to follow up with each other in the regions.

19. Housekeeping

- a. As Assistant Secretary, Brigette Kidd will be charged with monitoring the NCBALA website for accuracy and timeliness in addition to updating the Budget Advocate and Budget Rep contact lists and posting as google docs
- b. Liz Amsden to circulate Budget Advocate and Budget Rep contact lists as they stand now.
- c. People still needing to pick up business cards should contact Jay Handal.

20. Hot Issues

- a. There was a presentation at LANCC by the Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District about new and reemerging mosquito-related threats. The Aedes mosquito, new to LA can, although there have been no documented cases so far, spread Zika, Chikungunya (joint pain), dengue and yellow fever, also canine heartworm. They are smaller than ordinary mosquitoes and black-banded. They can also breed in homes (standing water in plant posts). All Neighborhood Councils should refer stakeholders to GLACVCD.org for further information and how to report.

- b. SB 827 has been introduced in Sacramento which would have the state taking over land use jurisdiction within half a mile of transit stops and a quarter mile of transit corridors – which could be most of Los Angeles – this should be referred to Neighborhood Councils’ Land Use Committees.

21. **New business**

John DiGregorio is working on behalf of the Youth Committee at Panorama City and requested other Neighborhood Councils with youth-centric committees to contact him about setting up a Citywide (Highland Park, Central San Pedro and Sunland-Tujunga were mentioned).

22. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 pm.

All Budget Advocates who do not have pre-existing commitments are expected to participate in Regional Budget Days on Saturday, January 20th.

Our next scheduled meeting will be on Monday, February 5th at 7 pm at the DONE offices in City Hall.

DRAFT