

Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates

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200 North Spring Street, Suite 2005, Los Angeles, CA 90012
Monday April 2, 2018 - 7pm

Meeting # 18 Minutes

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

1. Call to Order- The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Co-Chair Mr. Handel

2. Roll Call- Seventeen Budget Advocates were present. John Darnell, DONE's Neighborhood Council Advocate, was in attendance.

BA ITEM 2 Roll Call		
Present-17	Excused-2	Absent – 17
Allen, Bailey, Cupen-Ames, Derby-David, DiGregorio, Greenaway, Handal, Hornik, Humphreville, Katchen, Kidd, Labrecque, C Newman, R Newman, Ringuette, Ruano, Yvanek-Garb	Anchondo, Valencia	Ale, Amsden, Davis, Edwards, Gory, Kennedy, Kidd, Kim, Liberman, Menjivar, Morrison, Perry, Ramirez, Sandoval, Seamans, Smith, Sykes

3. Public Comment- on items NOT on the agenda (max: 10 minutes/2 minutes per person).
No public comment

4. Approval of minutes from Meeting #17 (March 17th)-

Motion by Mr. DiGregorio and seconded by Ms. Ringuette to approve the March 17, 2018 meeting minutes with the following changes:

1. Mr. Bailey requested to be noted as excused from the March 17, 2018 meeting.
2. Mr. Cupen-Ames requested the minutes indicate he participated in the meeting by phone.

BA ITEM 4 Approval of meeting #17 minutes Move: DiGregorio Second: Ringuette		
Yes – 16	No 1	Abstain
Allen, Bailey, Cupen-Ames, Derby-David, DiGregorio, Greenaway, Handal, Hornik, Humphreville, Katchen, Kidd, Labrecque, C Newman, R Newman, Ringuette, Yvanek-Garb	Ruano	NONE

- 7:03PM Ms. Gory joined the meeting by phone.
- 7:06PM Mr. Liberman joined the meeting in person.
- 7:08PM Mr. Perry joined the meeting by phone.

5. Motion to approve up to \$500 for additional hard copies of the White Paper to go to the General Managers of each Department and for hard copies of the Revenue Enhancement report to go to the Budget and Finance committee with copies to the Mayor, his budget team and the remaining Councilmembers.-

BA ITEM 5 Approval of up to \$500 for White Paper hard copies Move: Handal Second: DiGregorio		
Yes – 20	No	Abstain
Allen, Bailey, Cupen-Ames, Derby-David, DiGregorio, Greenaway, Gory, Handal, Hornik, Humphreville, Katchen, Kidd, Liberman, Labrecque, C Newman, R Newman, Perry, Ringuette, Ruano, Yvanek-Garb	NONE	NONE

6. Status election of replacement Budget Advocate in Region 5.-

There are three candidates for the Region 5 Budget Advocate position. The election will be held by email.

Mr. Katchen reminded the Budget Advocates that the parking passes need to be collected from Budget Advocates who are no longer Budget Advocates representing their regions. Mr. Katchen did not name who those former Budget Advocates were.

7. Review and possible motion to approve the Budget Advocates 1-page flyer.-

Motion made by Mr. Liberman seconded by Mr. Allen. Changes by Mr. Katchen were suggested to the Budget Advocates. Mr. Handal stated that if any changes are needed, Ms. Ringuette will edit the flyer.

BA ITEM 7 Approval of BA one page flyer Move: Liberman Second: Allen		
Yes – 20	No	Abstain
Allen, Bailey, Cupen-Ames, Derby-David, DiGregorio, Greenaway, Gory, Handal, Hornik, Humphreville, Katchen, Kidd, Liberman, Labrecque, C Newman, R Newman, Perry, Ringuette, Ruano, Yvanek-Garb	NONE	NONE

- 7:11PM Ms. Amsden joined the meeting by phone.

8. Motion to DONE to work with the Budget Advocates to develop a presentation on the Budget Advocates to be included as a featured component of every NC board member training moving forward.- Ms. Yvanek-Garb made the motion which was seconded by Mr. Liberman. Liz Amsden will write the letter.

BA ITEM 8 Approval to develop presentations for the Neighborhood Council meetings. Move: Yvanek-Garb Second: Liberman		
Yes – 21	No	Abstain
Allen, Amsden, Bailey, Cupen-Ames, Derby-David, DiGregorio, Greenaway, Gory, Handal, Hornik, Humphreville, Katchen, Kidd, Liberman, Labrecque, C Newman, R Newman, Perry, Ringuette, Ruano, Yvanek-Garb	NONE	NONE

Mr. Bailey suggested that the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment NCAs give the Budget Advocate reports for the Budget Advocates when they are not available since they are already attending the Neighborhood Council meetings.

9. Treasurer’s report & motion to approve. - A motion was made to send a letter to GM Holly Wolcott, GM Grayce Liu, and Funding Administrator Petty Santos to include wording requesting that the Budget Advocates’ funding be transferred to the City Clerk’s Office for administration, to make it easier to be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses in a more timely manner.

BA ITEM 9 Approval to draft and send letter Move: Liberman Second: C. Newman		
Yes – 21	No	Abstain
Allen, Amsden, Bailey, Cupen-Ames, Derby-David, DiGregorio, Greenaway, Gory, Handal, Hornik, Humphreville, Katchen, Kidd, Liberman, Labrecque, C Newman, R Newman, Perry, Ringuette, Ruano, Yvanek-Garb	NONE	NONE

10. Update from the working group on the Budget Advocates’ response to the Mayor’s State-of-the-City speech.- Postponed indefinitely

11. Update on Revenue Enhancements presentation to the Budget & Finance Committee in April.- There were twenty recommendations made last year to the Budget and Finance Committee. This year the Budget Advocates will be presenting twenty-five revenue enhancement objectives to the Budget and Finance Committee. The Budget Advocates’ White Paper books will be distributed to each of the Neighborhood Councils.

12. Discussion on preparation for presentations to the Budget and Finance Committee in April / May.-The presentations to the Budget and Finance Committee have not been scheduled. Several people will need to dedicate time to put these presentations together for the Budget and Finance Committee, but many of the recommendations are within the department reports. According to the latest tally, 63 letters from community leaders and stakeholders have been submitted in support of the Police Protective League’s report to increase the number of police officers serving the City.

13. Update on Budget Advocate Survey – 688 stakeholders have submitted Budget Surveys for this year’s fiscal budget cycle.

7:56PM Patrick Seamans joined the meeting by phone

14. Quick review of which Budget Advocate will be the point person for each Council District/Councilmember moving forward

CD1	John DiGregorio
CD2	Freddy Cupen-Ames
CD3	Priscilla Anchondo
CD4	Howard Katchen
CD5	Jon Liberman
CD6	John DiGregorio,
CD7	Rick Ramirez
CD8	Carol Derby-David
CD9	Bridgette Kidd
CD10	Valaida Gory
CD11	Jay Handal
CD12	Joanne Yvanek-Garb
CD13	Barbara Ringuette
CD14	Bob Newman
CD15	Melanie Labrecque

15. Budget Day – There was discussion on the topic of Budget Day and what needed to be done before Budget Day which will be held on June 23, 2018. The doors will open at 7:30AM. The Budget Day Committee needs to meet to arrange the scheduling of presenters and the coordination of the audio visual presentations, logistics and funding. One point that the committee needs to focus on is to increase the representation in Region 12- South LA. The Budget Advocates need to reach out to all areas.

Mr. Handal made a motion to fund up to \$5,000 to pay for Budget Day expenses. There was no discussion.

BA ITEM 15 Approval to fund up to \$5000 for Budget Day Move: Handal Second: Bailey		
Yes – 23	No	Abstain
Allen, Amsden, Bailey, Cupen-Ames, Derby-David, DiGregorio, Greenaway, Gory, Handal, Hornik, Humphreville, Katchen, Kidd, Liberman, Labrecque, C Newman, R Newman, Perry, Ringuette, Ruano, Seamans, Yvanek-Garb	NONE	NONE

8:05PM Dr. Princess Sykes joined the meeting in person

16. How does the City move on to RecyclA 2.0: going beyond the Englander / Bonin motion- Currently there is no firm plan for a solution to reduce the fees that are currently being charged for trash hauling. The current system has allowed the trash haulers the ability to overcharge. It was suggested by several Budget Advocates that the Budget Advocates review the current contracts and see how the City can have the contracts set aside. Mr. Allen made a motion requesting that the Budget Advocates receive a copy of the current contract and all the

supporting documentation. Mr. Liberman requested an amendment that once the documents are reviewed, the Budget Advocates submit a letter to the City Council with the recommendations. The motion passed as amended.

BA ITEM 16 Approve the request of current contract and to submit a letter of recommendations to the City Council Move: Allen Second: Liberman		
Yes – 24	No	Abstain
Allen, Amsden, Bailey, Cupen-Ames, Derby-David, DiGregorio, Greenaway, Gory, Handal, Hornik, Humphreville, Katchen, Kidd, Liberman, Labrecque, C Newman, R Newman, Perry, Ringuette, Ruano, Seamans, Sykes, Yvanek-Garb	NONE	NONE

17. Status of City Watch Articles- After much discussion, three topics were chosen from the White Paper to become articles for City Watch. The three topics to be included in future articles will be Pensions, Sanitation, and Building and Safety and will be taken from the White Paper. John Di Gregorio offered to submit them. It was further discussed whether the mainstream media should be contacted to get the word out on the Budget Advocates' White Paper and the recommendations for enhancements so that the public would be aware of the contents in the White Paper. Each Budget Advocate was to obtain contact information from their local media outlets and send it to J. DiGregorio with copies to Jay and Liz so the Budget Advocate Media List can be updated. The White Paper will then be sent to the new list to try and get more media attention.

18. Hot issues (if there is time)- Many topics were discussed, but the three topics that had a general consensus for future meetings were a need for comprehensive emergency plan for the City, discussion on what the Mayor's new initiative Resilience is and how Budget Advocates can assist with the Mayor's initiative, and does the City need the Olympics and World Cup Soccer Games?

19. New business- A new report on the Neighborhood Councils current fiscal year funding states that the current unspent balances in the Neighborhood Councils' accounts is currently about \$2.2 Million dollars that have not been spent in this fiscal year. Every Budget Advocate should request their Neighborhood Councils give some of any remaining funds to Budget Advocates.

20. Adjournment-

BA ITEM 20 Motion to Adjourn Move: Handal Second: Ringuette		
Yes – 24	No	Abstain
Allen, Amsden, Bailey, Cupen-Ames, Derby-David, DiGregorio, Greenaway, Gory, Handal, Hornik, Humphreville, Katchen, Kidd, Liberman, Perry, Ringuette, Ruano, Seamans, Sykes, Yvanek-Garb	NONE	NONE

Our next scheduled meeting will be on Saturday, April 21st at 10:00AM in West LA's Municipal Building.