

# Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates

[www.ncbala.com](http://www.ncbala.com)



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

Monday, August 29, 2016  
7:00 pm

## Minutes

Board Members	Roll Call	Board Members	Roll Call
Ivette Ale	Present arrived 7:50	Jacqueline Kennedy	Present
Brian Allen	Present	Brigette Kidd	Present
Liz Amsden	Present	Keith Kirkwood	Absent
Simone Best	Present	Jon Liberman	Present arrived 7:15
Julie Burg	Present arrived 7:15	Michael Menjvar	Present
Robert Campbell	Absent	William Morrison	Present
Kjriel Carlson	Absent	Carol Newman	Present by Phone
Kevin Davis	Absent	Christopher Perry	Absent
Adrienne Edwards	Absent	Rick Ramirez	Present arrived 7:10
Amy Foell	Absent	Barbara Ringuette	Present
Craig Goldfarb	Present arrived 7:10	Marcus Rodriguez	Present arrived 7:10
Valaida Gory	Present	Danielle Sandoval	Present
Jay Handal	Present	Patrick Seamans	Present
Jeanette Hopp	Present	Nicholas Soto	Absent
James Hornik	Present arrived 7:10	Rocky Valenzuela	Absent
Jack Humphreville	Present	Krisna Velasco	Absent
Ann Job	Present	Farid Youssif	Absent
Howard Katchen	Present	Joanne Yvanek-Garb	Present

- Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Co-Chair Jay Handal.
- Roll Call:** A quorum of 25 board members was present (see list above). Approximately 1 budget representative was present, and Mike Fong from DONE arrived at 8:45.
- Public Comment:** None
- Approval of Minutes from Meetings #3:** Motion by **Simon Best** to approve the minutes from the Meeting #3, August 20 meeting, second by **William Morrison**, and passed with 18 yes (Allen, Amsden, Best, Gory, Handal, Hopp, Humphreville, Job, Katchen, Kennedy, Kidd, Menjvar, Morrison, Newman, Ringuette, Sandoval, Seamans, and Yvanek-Garb), 0 no, 0 abstention(s), and 7 not yet present (Ale, Burg, Goldfarb, Hornik, Liberman, Ramirez, and Rodriquez).
- Treasurer's Report** - Howard Katchen, Treasurer
  - There has been no change from the fiscal position.
  - There are some issues with the price of constant contact relative to the Budget Advocates being a non-profit in their eyes or not.
  - Mr. Katchen asked who has access to the gmail email account? They need to get the password from last person that administered the account.
  - To view the financial statement please go to <http://ncbala.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/Budget-Advocate-Financial-Report-17-August-2016-1-1.pdf>
- Housekeeping** – Jay Handal
  - Parking Passes – passes were distributed to those present

- b. Business Cards – have been ordered, and Co-Chair Handal has seen and approved a proof
  - c. Website Status – The [www.ncbala.com](http://www.ncbala.com) website is up and running
  - d. New email addresses – if you have not already done so please set up your new NCLABA email address. All the addresses are the first initial and the last name, i.e. J.Handal@hcbala.com
  - e. Using Constant Contact – no new information
7. **Any NC & Alliance Concerns/Updates on Budget Reps**
- a. There are still approximately 20 NC's that have not appointed Budget Reps.
  - b. A few BA's will be attending various alliance meetings and will carry the message there to the NC's that still have not appointed Budget Reps.
8. **Motion to send a letter to the General Manager of DONE Protesting Stephen Box' Denial of the Budget Advocate Representing Wilmington Neighborhood Council the Right to Speak with Elected' Representatives on August 24<sup>th</sup>, Requiring Budget Advocates' Report to be Presented as Public Comment** Motion by **Barbara Ringuette** to approve sending a letter to the General Manager of DONE Protesting Stephen Box' Denial of the Budget Advocate Representing Wilmington Neighborhood Council the Right to Speak with Elected' Representatives on August 24<sup>th</sup>, Requiring Budget Advocates' Report to be Presented as Public Comment, second by **William Morrison**, and passed with 24 yes (Allen, Amsden, Best, Burg, Goldfarb, Gory, Handal, Hopp, Hornik, Humphreville, Job, Katchen, Kennedy, Kidd, Liberman, Menjvar, Morrison, Newman, Ramirez, Ringuette, Rodriquez, Sandoval, Seamans, and Yvanek-Garb), 0 no, 0 abstention(s), and 1 not yet present (Ale).
9. **Motion to send a letter to DONE to Advice all NC's to add BAs/BRs to the Beginning of Their Agendas Along with Elected** Motion by **Simon Best** to approve sending a letter to DONE to Advice all NC's to add BAs/BRs to the Beginning of Their Agendas Along with Elected, second by **Joanne Yvanek-Garb**, and passed with 24 yes (Allen, Amsden, Best, Burg, Goldfarb, Gory, Handal, Hopp, Hornik, Humphreville, Job, Katchen, Kennedy, Kidd, Liberman, Menjvar, Morrison, Newman, Ramirez, Ringuette, Rodriquez, Sandoval, Seamans, and Yvanek-Garb), 0 no, 0 abstention(s), and 1 not yet present (Ale).
10. **Outreach: Newsletter Committee Report/Update** – Krisna Velasco, Chair
- a. Content is needed for the newsletter. – ask NC's to add BA's to the agenda,
  - b. After Monday meetings please have articles submitted by close of business the following Wednesday, after Saturday meetings, the following Tuesday. For now, send articles to Jay Handal.
  - c. Ask Webmaster Kristin Smith to create the following email address for article submissions; [articles@ncbala.com](mailto:articles@ncbala.com)
  - d. Joanne Yvanek-Garb will forward the email/contact information for the 13 Councilmembers Communications Directors to Webmaster Kristin Smith for a creation of a separate list in Constant Contact
11. **Survey Committee Update** – Danielle Sandoval, Chair
- a. They used GoToMeeting.com for the first meeting and were very happy with the platform.
  - b. They will have another meeting on September 17.
  - c. They want to have the survey as a 'button' from the ncbala.com website.
  - d. They want to do a survey between now and the Congress on September 24.
  - e. They want to do business cards again to give out to get people to take the survey.
  - f. The cards will be two sided, English on one side and Spanish on the other.
  - g. Any suggestions for survey questions should be emailed to Danielle Sandoval at [d.sandoval@ncbala.com](mailto:d.sandoval@ncbala.com)
  - h. They are considering separating the survey by topic, for example; quality of life issues, LAPD, Homelessness, etc.
  - i. Co-Chair Jay Handal commented that the Mayor's office would like to include some questions. Mr. Handal will email Ms. Sandoval the contact information from the Mayor's office so she can follow up.
  - j. Motion by **Danielle Sandoval** to approve spending an amount not to exceed \$500 for the purchase of survey cards, second by **William Morrison**, and passed with 24 yes (Allen, Amsden, Best, Burg, Goldfarb, Gory, Handal, Hopp, Hornik, Humphreville, Job, Katchen,

Kennedy, Kidd, Liberman, Menjvar, Morrison, Newman, Ramirez, Ringuette, Rodriquez, Sandoval, Seamans, and Yvanek-Garb), 0 no, 0 abstention(s), and 1 not yet present (Ale).

12. **White Paper Committee Status** – Jack Humphreville, Chair

- a. Discussion of revenue as it relates to the budget process.
- b. Everyone should read the Los Angeles 2020 report and the BA's should leverage off it.
- c. Discussed having questions prepared when going to meet with the departments.
- d. Consider asking when the community plans were updated in chronological order.

13. **Status on Committees**

- a. Most of the committees are filled up. However, everyone please look at committees where they still need people and consider moving to one of the ones that still need people if you are on a committee that already has a lot of people.
- b. Committees cannot make appointments with departments until the letter from the Mayor goes out.
- c. Co-Chair Jay Handal time line September for mayor letter – send to Kristina to post on website
- d. get your committee position and chairs appointed
- e. Public Works and the Public Works Board committees need people. Co-Chair Jay Handal is combining the Public Works Board and Sanitation into one committee.
- f. Discussion of Los Angeles Public Library as a budgetary item. Co-Chair Jay Handal is adding it back to being a committee.

14. **Linking Mentors with New BAs**

- a. Co-Chair Jay Handal will take the list Liz Amsden sent him and link mentors with new members.

15. **New Business**

- a. Danielle Sandoval commented that she attended the City Council's committee on homelessness and poverty on Wednesday and that they will be installing a 400 unit storage facility at a cost of \$615,000 in San Pedro. There was no community input on this project. Ms. Sandoval wants to write a letter to the City Council and all of the NC Alliances addressing the lack of transparency and accountability. Motion by **Barbara Ringuette** to approve sending a letter to the City Council and all of the NC Alliances addressing the lack of transparency and accountability, second by **Simon Best**, and passed with 25 yes (Ale, Allen, Amsden, Best, Burg, Goldfarb, Gory, Handal, Hopp, Hornik, Humphreville, Job, Katchen, Kennedy, Kidd, Liberman, Menjvar, Morrison, Newman, Ramirez, Ringuette, Rodriquez, Sandoval, Seamans, and Yvanek-Garb), 0 no, and 0 abstention(s).
- b. The October 3 meeting is rescheduled to September 26 in observance of the holiday.

16. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm. The next meeting is September 17, 2016.

Respectfully submitted, Sheryl Akerblom  
for the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates