

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL BUDGET ADVOCATES MEETING #6  
MEETING BETWEEN 2015—2016 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR OF 2016—2017  
LOS ANGELES CITY HALL  
200 N. SPRING STREET #2005, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012  
OCTOBER 5, 2015

**ROLL CALL**

NCBAs Co-Chair Terrence Gomes called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM. Secretary Erick Morales called the roll:

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mr. Kevin Davis (1)  
Parliamentarian Glenn Bailey (2)  
Mr. Harvey Goldberg (3)  
Mr. Brandon Pender (4)  
Treasurer Howard Katchen (4)  
Dr. Patrick Seamans (5)  
Assistant Secretary Linda Lee (6)  
Mr. Nelson Castillo (6)  
Mr. Scott Bytof (6)  
Co-Vice-Chair Susan Reimers (7)  
Ms. Barbara Ringuette (7)  
Ms. Liz Amsden (8)  
Ms. Fanny Ortiz (8)  
Ms. Marisol Sanchez (8)  
Ms. Veronica Torres-Matthews (9)  
Mr. Brett Shears (10)  
Secretary Erick Morales (10)  
Ms. Ayana McCowen (10)  
Co-Chair Jay Handal (11)  
Co-Chair Terrence Gomes (11)  
Mr. Jon Liberman (11)  
Ms. Danielle Sandoval (12)

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Mr. Juan Salas (1)  
Co-Vice-Chair Krystee Clark (1)  
Ms. Krisna Velasco (2)  
Ms. Becky Leveque (2)  
Ms. Joanne Yvanek-Garb (3)  
Ms. C.R. Cochran (3)  
Ms. Jeanette Hopp (4)  
Ms. Elvina Beck (5)  
VACANT (5)  
Mr. Marcus Rodriguez (7)  
Ms. Margaret Peters (9)  
Ms. Monica Hernandez (9)  
Ms. Joan Jacobs (12)  
Mr. Hayes Thrower (12)

A quorum was present with 15 members at the time of roll call.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Assistant Secretary Linda Lee asked the NCBAs look into how the budget affects sustainability in the City.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Secretary Morales informed the Board that corrections were made to the minutes by Ms. Amsden and Mr. Davis.

Mr. Gomes moved to accept the minutes of September 19, 2015. Ms. Ringuette seconded the motion. The members present voted to approve the meeting minutes with the exception of Assistant Secretary Lee and Dr. Seamans, who both abstained. The meeting minutes are APPROVED.

**FUNDING REPORT**

Treasurer Howard Katchen reported that there has been no change to the NCBAs' funds since the last meeting; the accounts still contain \$30,139.23.

Assistant Secretary Lee moved accept the funding report. Ms. Ringuette seconded the motion. The funding report is UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED by the board members present.

### **REIMBURSEMENT OF PARKING EXPENSES**

Co-Chair Gomes and Treasurer Katchen explained to the Board that they had been charged parking fees during their visit to the Department of Animal Services on Budget Advocates business. They and Co-Chair Handal are each requesting at 39.15 in reimbursement from the NCBAs. Treasurer Katchen also informed the Board that the reimbursement would only be processed with receipts proving the parking charges.

Secretary Morales moved to approve the request for \$117.45. Ms. Ringuette seconded the motion. The request was UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED by the board members present.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE CONCERNS**

Co-Chair Gomes passed out forms to the Board members who requested parking passes; these forms must be completed to receive a pass. Co-Chair Gomes also distributed business card proofs to the Board members who had requested them. Board members not present will receive a scan of their proofs and approve them via email. Ms. McCowen and Assistant Secretary Lee informed the Board that their proofs were missing.

Parliamentarian Glenn Bailey joined the meeting at 7:16 PM.

### **ELECTION FOR CO-CHAIR REPLACING JAY HANDAL**

Co-Chair Jay Handal announced his resignation from the NCBAs in order to accept the position of Citywide Director of Elections for 2016. Handal noted the growth in legitimacy and credibility for the NCBAs in the past few years and expressed his wishes that the NCBAs continue to work hard in the years to come. He also offered WLANC's office to the NCBAs as a venue for Saturday meetings of the Board.

Co-Chair Gomes opened nominations for Co-Chair. Ms. Reimers moved to nominate Ms. Liz Amsden for Co-Chair. Ms. Amsden accepted the nomination.

Treasurer Katchen moved to nominate Secretary Erick Morales for Co-Chair. Secretary Morales did not accept the nomination and announced his intention to resign from the NCBAs at the end of the meeting.

Co-Chair Gomes closed nominations for Co-Chair. The members present voted to UNANIMOUSLY APPROVE Liz Amsden as the new Co-Chair of the NCBAs.

Ms. Marisol Sanchez joined the meeting at 7:20 PM.

### **REPLACING BUDGET ADVOCATES WHO HAVE STEPPED DOWN**

Parliamentarian Bailey clarified the process on replacing NCBAs to the Board. Co-Chair Gomes announced that Mark Redick of Westchester had been selected as Jay Handal's replacement in Region 11; Parliamentarian Bailey informed that he had not been informed of the election.

Secretary Morales announced that replacements must be found for the following regions:

Region 5, replacing Charles Lindenblatt

Region 9, replacing Monica Hernandez

Region 10, replacing Erick Morales

Region 11, replacing Jay Handal

Secretary Morales volunteered to head the by-elections for the aforementioned NCBA regions.

Mr. Liberman joined the meeting at 7:25 PM. Mr. Davis joined the meeting at 7:28 PM.

## **UPDATE ON ATTENDANCE AND OBLIGATIONS**

Secretary Morales announced to the NCBAs that he would provide them with a Google Doc that would outline attendance for the past few meetings. Morales also informed the Board that four consecutive absences—excused or unexcused—would lead to consideration of removal from the Board.

## **UPDATE AND DISCUSSION ON REGIONAL BUDGET DAY ON OCTOBER 17<sup>TH</sup>**

Co-Chair Amsden discussed an agenda that has been provided to all of the Regional Budget Day organizers. Co-Chair Gomes also announced that Mayor Garcetti's office intends to have a speaker at all the Regional Budget Days to speak for fifteen minutes on the Mayor's priorities and answer a few questions.

Co-Chair Gomes asked if the organizers had gotten all of their expenses to Jay Handal or Treasurer Katchen. Those that had not were asked to report their expenses as soon as possible. Gomes reported that Katchen could order from Subway using a mobile app that the individual organizers could then pick up near their venues. Other purchases that could be made at Smart and Final would be placed in a central location (Los Angeles City Hall) for individual pick up. Gomes also suggested that Costco be used as a vendor.

Assistant Secretary Lee asked what outreach had been done for the event; Co-Chair Amsden said that she plans to have DONE GM Grayce Liu place information about the events on her weekly newsletter and ask all the individual neighborhood councils to put up information on their individual websites and social media channels. Co-Chair Gomes reported that any formal outreach plan had yet to be discussed because it is the responsibility of Co-Vice-Chair Krystee Clark.

Mr. Shears asked what should be placed on promotional items from individual Regional Budget Days regarding the speaker from the Mayor's office. Co-Chair Gomes advised that the individual regions be as generic as possible.

Co-Chair Gomes asked that Board members take stacks of cards for the NCBAs Budget Priorities Survey to hand out at Regional Budget Day and at their individual NC meetings. Paper copies of the survey were still unavailable. Mr. Shears asked that Treasurer Katchen look into paying for translation services at the Regional Budget Days.

Ms. Ortiz joined the meeting at 7:40 PM.

## **UPDATES AND DISCUSSIONS FOR COMMITTEES**

**CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER:** Ms. Ringuette announced that this department would be included in her current committee that will look at Housing, Planning, etc. A point person will be discussed with current committee members Jon Liberman and Joanne Yvanek-Garb.

**AGING:** Ms. Sanchez reported that she has not heard back from GM Laura Trejo; Co-Chair Gomes will report this to Jon Chavez of the Mayor's office.

**ANIMAL SERVICES:** This committee's work has been completed.

**CITY ATTORNEY:** Mr. Pender reported that he has sent emails on behalf of the committee requesting an interview date.

**BUILDING AND SAFETY:** Ms. Ringuette reported that a meeting will be held on October 15<sup>th</sup> with the Department.

**CITY CLERK:** Chair Charles Lindenblatt has resigned; Parliamentarian Bailey volunteered to chair.

**CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION:** Mr. Davis has spoken with the Department's administrative assistant and believes he will have a meeting by the end of the month with the GM.

**CONTROLLER:** Ms. Sandoval volunteered to chair the committee.

**CONVENTION CENTER:** Secretary Morales is scheduling a meeting.

**CULTURAL AFFAIRS:** Co-Vice-Chair Clark had volunteered to schedule a meeting.

DISABILITY: Dr. Seamans will chair; Secretary Morales will give Dr. Seamans his notes from last year's meeting with the Department.

ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT: Ms. Torres-Matthews will chair.

EL PUEBLO: Ms. Sanchez has met with members of the Department and will have a report soon.

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: Mr. Pender reported that he has sent emails on behalf of the committee requesting an interview date.

EMPLOYEE RELATIONS: There was no report; Co-Chair Amsden will look into a new chair.

LACERS (PENSIONS): Chair Goldberg reported that he is working on scheduling meetings.

PUBLIC WORKS/ENGINEERING: Chair Susan Reimers reported that the committee may need some assistance from the Mayor's office to get ahold of some General Managers.

ETHICS: Chair Liz Amsden reported that she is working on scheduling a meeting.

FINANCE: Gomes will chair the committee.

LAFD: Mr. Pender reported that he has sent emails on behalf of the committee requesting an interview date.

GENERAL SERVICES: Gomes will chair; Mr. Shears will join the committee.

HOUSING: Ms. Ringuette reported that the committee is scheduling meetings and needs a list of members to ensure that it is including all interested parties in its discussions.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: Mr. Shears reported that the committee's work is complete.

LIBRARY: Ms. McCowan reported that she is in contact with the Assistant General Manager and is scheduling a meeting soon.

DONE: Committee Chair Howard Katchen was not present to deliver a report.

PERSONNEL: Secretary Morales will continue to serve as chair; he is scheduling meetings. Co-Chair Amsden and Mr. Liberman are the current committee members.

POLICE: Mr. Pender reported that he has sent emails on behalf of the committee requesting an interview date.

PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY: Mr. Jack Humphreville will become chair.

RECREATION AND PARKS: Chair Glenn Bailey reported that the General Manager and Assistant General Manager have been contacted but no meeting has been set.

TRANSPORTATION: Glenn Bailey will chair the committee.

UNIONS: Co-Chair Gomes will chair the committee.

WHITE PAPER: No report until actual work begins.

ZOO: Secretary Erick Morales reported that the Zoo would not like to meet until November; Co-Chair Gomes advised the NCBAs to drop the Zoo for this year.

Co-Chair Amsden reported that the Departments have to report to the Mayor's office on their budget priorities by November, so suggestions on individual budgets must be made at the same time for maximum impact. Mr. Bailey asked that Budget Survey responses be included in the recommendations because culling information from the Departments is only part of the NCBAs' jobs.

Treasurer Katchen left the meeting at 8:03 PM

#### **UPDATE OF NCBALA WEBSITE**

Co-Chair Gomes reported that there is very little information on the NCBAs website about what they are doing this budget season. Secretary Morales reported that minutes have been sent to Ms. Beck, who administrates the website. Mr. Bytof volunteered to take a look at what is missing on the website.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Castilo thanked Secretary Morales for his work on the NCBAs.

Co-Chair Gomes reported on the \$100 million pledge the City Council made to fight veterans' homelessness. Gomes reported that the pledge is very broad and said that the Council should increase this pledge by \$25 million. Then the county, state, and federal levels of government should all contribute money to the issue.

Other Board members reported that various issues are connected to homelessness, including affordable housing and economic development.

**ITEMS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION**

Co-Chair Gomes asked that Board members consider serving as Secretary.

Parliamentarian Glenn Bailey asked that the NCBA's consider looking at budget issues as they come before City Council committees to have maximum impact on the budget. The NCBA's could file CISs and speak before the committees as the issues came up.

Secretary Morales asked if the minutes for August 22 had been completed. Co-Chair Gomes reported that they would be ready for approval by the next scheduled meeting of the NCBA's.

**ADJOURNMENT**

WITHOUT OBJECTION, Co-Chair Gomes adjourned the meeting at 8:49 PM. The next scheduled board meeting of the NCBA's will occur on November 2<sup>nd</sup> in Los Angeles City Hall.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:  
ERICK M. MORALES  
2015—2016 NCBA's SECRETARY