

Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates

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

Monday, November 6, 2017 – 7 pm

Meeting #9 Minutes

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

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Jack Humphreville.
2. **Roll Call** – A quorum of 22 members was present (see list above). Budget Representative Garry Fordyce from North Hills West and John Darnell, DONE’s Neighborhood Council Advocate were present.
3. **Public Comment on non-agenda items**
 - a. Joanne Yvanek-Garb spoke with John Lewis, Director of the Los Angeles Zoo, about Budget Advocates embedding in the Zoo’s budget process. Joanne will get together with Melanie Labrecque, the Chair of the Zoo Committee, and discuss the issue further.
 - b. Glenn Bailey requested that DONE try to ensure that other meetings are not scheduled at the same time as the Budget Advocates’ regular meetings.
 - c. John Darnell announced:
 - I. Neighborhood Council elections have been postponed to 2019.
 - II. Applications for subdivisions will be open again November 15th for several months. They will accept the first five applications.
 - III. The Board of Neighborhood Councils (BONC) is forming a working group on the NC funding equity issue. The working group will have two representatives from each Neighborhood Council region. People can apply to be a member of the working group. There is a link in the NC monthly profile.

IV. Civic University 2.0 is coming up and is open to 2 board members from every NC to attend.

4. **Approval of Minutes from Meeting #8 (October 21st)**
Motion by **Brian Allen** to approve the meeting #8 October 21st minutes, seconded by **Lynda Valencia**, and passed with 19 ayes, 0 noes, 1 abstention, and 2 not yet present.
5. **Treasurer's report** –Howard Katchen, Treasurer
 - a. Motion to approve – item tabled
 - b. Update on issues with DONE – item tabled
6. **Region 12 participation** – We need to solicit at least one more Budget Advocate in Region 12. Melanie Labrecque cannot handle all the NC meetings alone.
7. **Working with Budget Representatives and Neighborhood Councils** – John DiGregorio
 - a. Identify NCs that have not been visited – A number of visits have not been posted.
 - b. Report on updating the google doc – If people cannot update the google doc, they can email John D, he will update the google doc and work with them to resolve their issues.
 - c. Issues to report from Regional meetings – Budget Advocates should focus on issues and solutions rather than financial data.
 - d. Status website – The website has been updated. John D will be posting department meeting reports. John D to contact Budget Rep Danielle Sandoval for access to the Facebook account.
 - e. Status CityWatch articles – John D sent one and is working on another. People can email John DiGregorio with a topic and 5 bullet points and he will work on creating an article. He can also work with the CityWatch staff to work on creating articles from people's ideas.
 - f. Press releases – None
 - g. Linking up with other organizations – John D met with Grayce Liu at DONE, and he is meeting next week with Channel 35 to see if we can work together to produce content.
8. **Bylaws Committee Report** – Carol Newman – Not present, item deferred
9. **Second reading of proposed amendments to Article III, Sections 2 and 3 of the Budget Advocates' Bylaws** – Carol Newman – Not present, item deferred
10. **Further discussion on and possible motion to approve a Grievance Portal for the NCBALA website** – Carol Newman – Not present, item deferred
11. **Update on White Paper** – Jack Humphreville
 - a. Submissions to date – Jack is to designate a member of the White Paper Committee to track, proof and standardize department meeting reports.
 - b. Conventions to address – Will be addressed by Jack's designee.
 - c. Any issues? – Jack needs help with the logistics.
12. **Discussion on and motion to approve Early White Paper recommendations** – Jack Humphreville
 - a. Motion by **Liz Amsden** to approve the Early White Paper and its recommendations, as written, seconded by **Don Evans**, and passed with 22 ayes, 0 noes, and 0 abstentions.
13. **Regional Budget Day plans**
 - a. Date – Tentative date January 20th, John D to call and confirm the date for the Empowerment Congress, if it conflicts then Regional Budget Day will be January 27th.
 - b. Save-the-date flyer distribution – To proceed once the date is confirmed.
 - c. Format – Discussion about speakers. Need to get both NCs and City officials involved.
14. **Budget training with Jacob Wexler from the CAO's office** – Barbara Ringuette – Not present item deferred

15. **Hot issues**

- a. Are short term band-aids on homelessness costing the City money without significantly resolving the problem – Discussion
- b. If RecyclA is good policy, how should the City improve on selling it to its stakeholders – Discussion. The Dept. of Sanitation wants to hear complaints so that they can address.
- c. Identify areas of potential cost savings such as liability settlements and brainstorm on solutions – Discussion

16. **Housekeeping** – None

17. **New business** – None

18. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 pm. The next scheduled meeting will be on Saturday, November 18th at 10:00 am in the West Los Angeles Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted, Sheryl Akerblom
for the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates