



Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates

www.BudgetAdvocates.org

Zoom Meeting

May 1, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

Meeting #20 Minutes

Board Members	Roll Call	Region	Board Members	Roll Call	Region
Kevin Davis	Present	1	Barbara Ringuette	Present	7
Cindy Cleghorn	Absent	1	David Hunter	Present	7
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Brian Allen	Present	2	Lynda Valencia	Present	8
Garry Fordyce	Present	2	Samantha McBride	Absent	8
Scott Wright	Present	2	----	----	8
Glenn Bailey	Present	3	Elias Garcia	Present	9
David Uebersax	Present	3	----	----	9
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Howard Katchen	Excused	4	Jennifer Goodie	Absent	10
Brandon Pender	Present	4	----	----	10
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Jack Humphreville	Excused	5	Jay Handal	Absent	11
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Ernesto Castro	Absent	6	Sheryl Akerblom	Present	12
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- I. Welcome and Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Kay Hartman at 7:10 p.m., with a quorum in attendance.
- II. Roll Call – See above. No other guests in attendance.
- III. Approval of prior meeting minutes – No minutes ready for approval
- IV. Public Comment on non-agenda items within subject matter jurisdiction – None
- V. Announcements
 - A. Announcements from DONE (John Darnell) – Not present
 - B. Vacancies, seeking Budget Advocates for the following regions – One each in regions 1, 3, 7, and 8, two each in regions 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, and 12
 1. Reach out to Glenn, Kay, and Jennifer
- VI. Updates – None

VII. New Business

A. Budget Hearings

1. BAs are Tuesday afternoon – Budget hearings are in progress, with Budget Advocates scheduled to present at 1:00 p.m. Tuesday afternoon.
2. Presenting are Kay Hartman, Barbara Ringuette, and David Hunter – Department report-backs have started populating today.

VIII. Old Business

A. Department meetings – Members provided status updates on reports and department meetings. Reports are needed immediately for meetings that have already occurred. This includes Controller, Neighborhood Empowerment, Police, and Zoo, as well as Street Services, when able to reschedule.

1. Budget Requests
2. Spreadsheet
3. White Paper – David Hunter is working on the theme paper, and will be presenting it at tomorrow's budget hearing. Kay will make additions.
 - a) Theme is Restart, Reform, Refocus...
 - b) Motion to approve white paper – item not considered.

B. CF 11-1020-S3 – Elise Ruden communicated that she has been rewriting the ordinance, based on many of Kay's requested changes.

C. Discussion with Hydee Feldstein Soto – As requested by Hydee Feldstein Soto, Kay marked unwanted language within the council file, designated what was desired and submitted a statement about it, written in collaboration with the Executive Committee. Changes sent to Elise and Hydee are now being incorporated.

D. Discussion with Venessa Serrano – Kay told Vanessa Serrano that the Budget Advocates would like to restart its relationship with the department, get on better footing, and be reinstated onto the contribution form. Vanessa agreed to do what she can. Kay will follow up once budget hearings have finished.

E. SB-411 – This bill is in the state legislature and is proposing to amend the Brown Act allowing Neighborhood Councils to opt-in to virtual meetings. City Council must authorize the change and the author's deputy met with Neighborhood Council presidents. It is set to be passed out of committee tomorrow and into the State Judiciary, with a sunset provision of February 21, 2028, if approved.

F. Town Hall on the City budget – It has become too late to schedule a town hall this year, while avoiding Budget Day and accommodating those involved with the budget hearings. Budget Advocates will put it on the calendar for January, to schedule the event ahead of time, instead of waiting for the budget to be released.

IX. Committee Reports

A. Executive Committee – Jennifer Goodie & Kay Hartman, Co-chairs

1. Letter to support restoration of NC funding – The letter was not written. Council File 11-1020-S3 was discussed.

B. Finance Committee – Brian Allen, Treasurer

- a) Brian reported that there is \$48,741.80 in the Budget Advocates' account at DONE. No known contributions were received the entire year. Brian will be sending out report-backs and posting financial reports to the website reflecting finances from throughout the previous treasurer's term. Please contact Brian to participate on the Finance Committee, or to provide information about which members are involved.

1. March 2023 Financial Report – The March report was brought up to date. April is also ready.

B. Outreach – Samantha McBride, Chair – Not present

C. Bylaws – Glenn Bailey, Chair – The committee is still seeking the submission of questions and comments. This excludes responses to the Grievance and Elections sections, which have already been reviewed.

D. Budget Day

1. Volunteers are needed for the committee.

2. Meetings are 2nd and 4th Saturdays
 - a) April 8th meeting canceled
 - E. Training and Education – Barbara Ringuette, Chair – Barbara is available to help those trying to write or modify reports. Reports formatted as straight notes or recommendations must be edited to include a perspective. Barbara will reach out to the authors for edits.
 - F. Ad Hoc Editing – Kay Hartman, David Hunter, and Tess
 1. The White Paper will be presented to committee containing the reports currently edited. Additional reports will be compiled into an addendum to go out later. Barbara prepared a report on all submitted recommendations for presentation to the Budget and Finance Committee. Writers may make adjustments at the link Kay provided.
 - G. Ad Hoc Restructuring – David Hunter, Chair – No new information.
- X. Informational Items
- A. Controller Report Relative to Recommendations to more effectively Prepare the City of Los Angeles for Emergencies – [CF 22-1258](#)
 - B. 1st Financial Status Report released – [CF 22-0600-S96](#)
 - C. 2nd Financial Status Report released – [CF 22-0600-S99](#)
 - D. [Controller's Revenue Forecast](#)
 - E. 3rd Financial Status Report released – [CF 22-0600-S101](#)
 - F. City Budget – [CF 23-0600](#)
 - G. Budget memos are available at [CAO.lacity.org](#) under “Budget and Finance Information”, then “2023-24 Budget Memos”. Please read what is applicable. These will be reviewed starting Thursday, May 4, at 9:00 a.m., with May 12 as a follow-up date.
- XI. Upcoming Meetings and Events
- A. Budget Advocates: Monday, May 1, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
 - B. BONC: Tuesday, May 2, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.
 - C. LANCC: Saturday, May 6th, 2023 at 10:00 a.m.
 - D. BONC: Tuesday, May 15, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.
 - E. Budget Advocates: Saturday, May 20, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.
 - F. Budget Day: Saturday, June 17, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.
- XII. Items for Future Meeting Agendas – Send items for future agendas to labudgetadvocates@gmail.com.
- XIII. Adjournment – Co-chair Kay Hartman adjourned the meeting at 8:10 p.m.
- Next meeting May 20, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.
- Minutes of Budget Advocate meeting #20 (May 1)
ELSPETH WEINGARTEN
May 7, 2023