

# Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates

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**Eagle Rock City Hall  
2035 Colorado Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90041  
Saturday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018 at 10 AM**



## Meeting #2 (Retreat) Minutes

| Board Members           | Roll Call       | Region | Board Members      | Roll Call       | Region |
|-------------------------|-----------------|--------|--------------------|-----------------|--------|
| Kevin Davis             | Absent          | 1      | Tony Michaelis     | Present         | 7      |
| John DiGregorio         | Present         | 1      | Barbara Ringuette  | Present         | 7      |
| Rick Ramirez            | Present         | 1      | Connie Acosta      | Present         | 7      |
| Brian Allen             | Absent          | 2      | Liz Amsden         | Present         | 8      |
| Glenn Bailey            | Present         | 2      | Jamie Tijerina     | Present (10:44) | 8      |
| Diedra Greenaway        | Present         | 2      | Jose Orozco Pelico | Present (10:23) | 8      |
| Dan Burt                | Present         | 3      | Chelsea McElwee    | Present (10:26) | 9      |
| Carol Newman            | Present         | 3      | Evelyn Valdez      | Present (10:23) | 9      |
| Joanne Yvanek-Garb      | Present         | 3      | Jose Medina        | Present         | 9      |
| Freddy Cupen-Ames       | Absent          | 4      | Carol Derby-David  | Present         | 10     |
| Howard Katchen          | Present         | 4      | Erick Morales      | Present         | 10     |
| Brandon Pender          | Present         | 4      | KJ Clark           | Present         | 10     |
| Jack Humphreville       | Present         | 5      | Jay Handal         | Present         | 11     |
| Jessica Salans          | Present (10:26) | 5      | Maureen Crowe      | Present         | 11     |
| Patrick Seamans         | Absent          | 5      | Jon Liberman       | Present (10:40) | 11     |
| James Hornik            | Absent          | 6      | Melanie Labrecque  | Present (10:39) | 12     |
| Adrienne Nicole Edwards | Present (10:21) | 6      | Sierra Gothe       | Excused         | 12     |
| Faalaniga "Nina" Smith  | Present (12:04) | 6      | Dr. Princess Sykes | Absent          | 12     |

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Co-Chair Liz Amsden.
2. Public Comment: No public comments were made.
3. Roll Call: A quorum of 20 Budget Advocates were present at the start of the meeting. Throughout the meeting, 9 more Budget Advocates joined for a total of 29. 6 Budget Advocates were absent and 1 Budget Advocate was excused. Julian from DONE also joined the meeting.
4. Welcome: Co-Chair Liz Amsden welcomed the Budget Advocates to Eagle Rock City Hall.
5. Introductions: The Budget Advocates present introduced themselves, providing information about their neighborhood councils, interests, and skills.
6. Budget Representative Relationships: Co-Chair Liz Amsden encouraged Budget Advocates to build relationships with the Council Presidents and Outreach Chairs of the neighborhood councils to which they've been assigned. The Budget Advocates should work with their councils to make sure the NCBA's are included in the agenda and that their talking points are distributed for report at every meeting.

7. Meeting with Mayor Garcetti: The Mayor has agreed to meet with the Budget Advocates once at the beginning of this year's process. Co-Chair Jay Handal stressed that the Budget Advocates maximize their impact by meeting with the Mayor at the beginning rather than the end, when his budget proposals are almost completely established.
8. Regional Priorities: Co-Chair Liz Amsden provided the Budget Advocates with a document of the concerns expressed by all Budget Representatives at Budget Day.
9. White Paper: Co-Chair Liz Amsden invited Budget Advocates to volunteer to work on the White Paper report for this year.
10. Research on Departments: Co-Chair Liz Amsden explained the basic process by which Budget Advocates should research their departments prior to meeting with General Managers and other City staff. This included reading specific department's budget memos and reading the City budget on the CAO's website.
11. Committee Assignments: Co-Chair Liz Amsden provided the Budget Advocates with a draft list of committee assignments. Not all Budget Advocates had sent Ms. Amsden their preferred departments to work on, so the list will be finalized later. Ms. Amsden asked all Budget Advocates who had yet to send their preferences to do so as soon as possible.
12. Group Activity: this item was not addressed due to time constraints.
13. Training: Vice-Chair Barbara Ringuette announced that training would be scheduled for the new Budget Advocates. All Budget Advocates are encouraged to attend, regardless of experience.
14. Formation of Committee for Stakeholder Engagement: this item was not addressed due to time constraints.
15. Survey: Some Budget Advocates expressed concern about the low attendance at Regional Budget Days in the past and advocated for using the effort on other projects, such as a survey. Mr. Glenn Bailey expressed concern for cancelling Regional Budget Day without outreaching to stakeholders about the impact. Co-Chair Handal argued that Regional Budget Days have been ineffective in reaching stakeholders.

MOTION: Co-Chair Liz Amsden moved to cancel Regional Budget Day and to replace the event with a survey and other matters by which to expand the reach of the Budget Advocates.

AMENDED MOTION: Co-Chair Jay Handal amended the motion as follows: cancel Regional Budget Day and to replace the event with a survey and other matters by which to expand the reach of the Budget Advocates. **However, should a region's Budget Advocates wish to hold a town hall on the survey results, they may do so upon request to the Budget Advocates board.** Ms. Melanie Labrecque seconded the motion.

SUPPORT: 26 votes

OPPOSE: 2 votes

ABSTAIN: 1 vote

MOTION PASSED.

Ms. Joanne Yvanek-Garb will reach out to the City Clerk's Office to discuss potential collaboration on creating scantron ballots for the NCBA's survey.

16. Approval of Minutes:

a. Meeting #23, 2017-2018

MOTION: Co-Chair Liz Amsden moved to approve the minutes for Meeting #23. Vice-Chair John DiGregorio seconded the motion.

SUPPORT: 20 votes

OPPOSE: 0 votes

ABSTAIN: 9 votes

MOTION PASSED. MINUTES APPROVED.

b. Meeting #1, 2018-2019

MOTION: Vice-Chair John DiGregorio moved to accept the minutes for Meeting #1. Co-Chair Liz Amsden seconded the motion.

SUPPORT: 23 votes

OPPOSE: 0 votes

ABSTAIN: 6 votes

MOTION PASSED. MINUTES APPROVED.

17. Approval of Treasurer's Report for FY 2017-2018: this item was postponed for the next meeting.

18. Approval of Treasurer's Budget for FY 2018-2019: this item was postponed for the next meeting.

19. Consent Calendar: Co-Chair Jay Handal presented the Budget Advocates with the following items for consideration by consent:

- a. up to \$500.00 for BA retreat for food, printed materials, and other associated expenses
- b. up to \$125.00 per month (\$1,500 per year) to pay The Mailroom or any other BA board-approved vendor to maintain the ncbala.com website and keep current with all information submitted for posting
- c. up to \$20.00 per month (\$240.00 per year) to pay The Mailroom for web hosting ncbala.com
- d. up to \$3,500.00 for the fiscal year to pay a staffing company for a professional note taker if and when needed
- e. up to \$1,700.00 to pay the City of Los Angeles City Printing Services for business cards for each Budget Advocate (36 sets of 250 cards)
- f. up to \$1,000.00 for Budget Advocates administrative items and operational costs
- g. up to \$1,800.00 for print of bound copies of the Budget Advocates' 2019 White Paper to distribute to neighborhood councils, the Mayor, City Council, and Department General Managers

- h. up to \$9,000.00 for the Budget Advocate CityWatch marketing outreach campaign at \$1,000.00 per month for the months of October 2018 to June 2019, with the option to cancel at any time.

MOTION: Mr. Jon Liberman moved to approve the consent calendar. Vice Chair Barbara Ringuette seconded the motion.

SUPPORT: 29 votes

OPPOSE: 0 votes

ABSTAIN: 0 votes

MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

20. Rebranding Discussion: this item was postponed for the next meeting. Budget Advocates are encouraged to email the Co-Chairs potential names for consideration.

21. Business Cards: a Google doc will be sent out to the Budget Advocates to collect information for the business cards.

22. Adjournment: Co-Chair Liz Amsden adjourned the meeting at 2:06 PM.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

ERICK M. MORALES

2018 - 2019 NCBA Secretary