

Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates

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1645 Corinth Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90025

Saturday, May 19, 2018 - 10 am



Meeting #21 Minutes

Board Members	Roll Call	Region	Board Members	Roll Call	Region
Ivette Alé	Absent	9	Jon Liberman	Present	11
Brian Allen	Present	2	William Morrison	Absent	8
Liz Amsden	Present	8	Carol Newman	Present	3
Glenn Bailey	Present	2	Robert Newman	Absent	6
Freddy Cupen-Ames	Excused	4	Christopher Perry	Present (10:10)	9
Carol Derby-David	Excused	10	Rick Ramirez	Present (10:11)	1
Kevin Davis	Present (10:25)	1	Barbara Ringuette	Present	7
John DiGregorio	Present (10:12)	1	Danielle Sandoval	Absent	12
Adrienne Nicole Edwards	Present (10:19)	6	Patrick Seamans	Excused	5
Valaida Gory	Present (10:15)	10	Eleanor Smith	Absent	10
Diedra Greenaway	Present	2	Dr. Princess Sykes	Excused	12
Jay Handal	Present	11	Lynda Valencia	Absent	8
James Hornik	Present	6	Joanne Yvanek-Garb	Present	3
Jack Humphreville	Present	5	Open		3
Howard Katchen	Present (10:12)	4	Open		4
Oren Katz	Absent	5	Open		7
Brigette Kidd	Present by phone	9	Open		7
Melanie Labrecque	Excused	12	Open		11

- The meeting was called to order by Jay Handal at 10:05 AM
- Jay Handal called roll and 12 members were present. A quorum of 14 Members was not reached.
John Darnell and Julien Antelin representing DONE joined the meeting by phone. Garry Fordyce of North Hills West Neighborhood Council, Brandon Pender of Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council, and Holly Tillson, Treasurer of the Mar Vista Community Council, attended in person.

BA ITEM 2 Roll Call		
Present-12	Excused-4	Absent – 15
Allen, Amsden, Bailey, Greenaway, Handal, Hornik, Humphreville, Kidd, Liberman, C. Newman, Ringuette, Yvanek- Garb	Cupen-Ames, Derby-David, Labrecque, Sykes	Ale, Davis, DiGregorio, Edwards, Gory, Katchen, Katz, Morrison, R. Newman, Perry, Ramirez, Sandoval, Seamans, Smith, Valencia

Due to the lack of quorum, the meeting moved to Item # 8 to discuss attendance.

- Status Budget Advocate attendance compliance and possible motion to remove those out of compliance. Some of those currently out of compliance have committed to attending meetings.

Christopher Perry joined the meeting (10:10)

John DiGregorio joined the meeting (10:11)

A quorum of 14 Budget Advocates was reached.

Howard Katchen joined the meeting by phone (10:12)

Rick Ramirez joined the meeting by phone (10:12)

Valaida Gory joined the meeting by phone (10:15)

Motion to remove Ivette Alé and Eleanor Smith due to non-compliance with the Budget Advocate attendance policy.

BA ITEM 8 Motion to Remove Ivette Ale and Eleanor Smith Moved: Jay Handal Second: Brian Allen		
Yes – 14	No -3	Abstain
Allen, DiGregorio, Greenaway, Handal, Hornik, Humphreville, Katchen Kidd, Liberman, C. Newman, Perry, Ramirez, Ringuette, Yvanek- Garb	Amsden, Bailey, Gory	

Meeting returned to Item 3.

- Public Comment on items NOT on the agenda (max: 10 minutes/2 minutes per person).

There were no comments from the public.

John Darnell of DONE advised that tomorrow (May 20th) is the last day to submit an event form to the department for this fiscal year.

- Approval of minutes from Meeting #20 (May 7th) and possible correction of minutes from Meeting #18 (April 2nd). Tabled.
- Treasurer’s report & motion to approve.

(a) Report-back on getting bills paid - Invoices are not coming in on a timely basis. Howard Katchen will confirm all vendors have the correct information. John Darnell will check on what is happening to Budget Advocates mail sent to the DONE address.

(b) Report-back on current funding from Neighborhood Councils - the City Clerk’s office is processing the payments to the Budget Advocates from the Neighborhood Councils in batches. The record keeping that has been made available does not include all of the Neighborhood Councils that have committed money from their budgets. Glenn Bailey suggested the Treasurer ascertain from which fiscal year funds are coming.

Kevin Davis joined the meeting by phone (10:25)

BA ITEM 5 Motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report Moved: Liz Amsden Second: Jon Liberman		
Yes – 15	No 2	Abstain-1
Amsden, Davis, Gory, Greenaway, Handal, Hornik, Humphreville, Katchen, Kidd, Liberman, C. Newman, Perry, Ramirez, Ringuette, Yvanek- Garb	Allen, Bailey	John DiGregorio

Adrienne Edwards joined the meeting by phone (10:19)

- Motion to approve up to \$400 for a quality digital recorder to allow Budget Advocates to post MP4 recordings of meetings on the website. Item was approved

BA ITEM 6 Approve up to \$400 for digital recorder Moved: Jon Liberman Second: Brian Allen		
Yes – 18	No 1	Abstain-
Allen, Amsden, Bailey, Davis, Edwards, Gory, Greenaway, Handal, Hornik, Humphreville, Katchen, Kidd, Liberman, C. Newman, Perry, Ramirez, Ringuette, Yvanek- Garb	DiGregorio	

- 7. Motion to approve up to \$400 for a quality omnidirectional speaker or speakerphone for the meetings in West Los Angeles. Purchase will be made from existing allocation of funds.

Item 8 addressed above

- 9. Report-back on the Budget Advocates’ presentation to the City Council on the FY 2018/2019 City Budget. Budget Advocates were not asked any questions and there was discussion on how to gain more traction in the future.
- 10. Report-back on letter to the Mayor concerning the Budget Advocates’ exclusion from the City Council Chambers for the State-of-the-City address and confirming meetings with the Mayor and his budget team going forward. Jack Humphreville will send a copy of the RSVP list to Jill Steward to see how many of those in attendance might be lobbyists, developers, or others to whom the Mayor owes favors.
- 11. Distribution of Budget Survey results and possible brief discussion. There were 887 responses to the Budget Advocate Survey. Freddy Cupen-Ames will circulate a chart showing the responses to each question. Freddy was also going to put together an article on the survey for CityWatch and include links to see the responses as well as look into how the recent Board of Neighborhood Commissioners managed to get 1800 responses to their survey.
- 12. Discussion and possible motion on a Budget Advocate exit survey. Brigitte Kidd will make some of the changes suggested and send to Liz Amsden to circulate for further input before bringing to the next meeting for approval.
- 13. Report-back on an outline of a presentation about the Budget Advocates for DONE’s training of new NC board members and possible motion to approve. Tabled to next meeting.
- 14. Report-back on getting Neighborhood Councils to appoint Budget Representatives prior to Budget Day.

All Budget Advocates need to get each Neighborhood Councils for which they are responsible to appoint two Budget Representatives. Jay Handal asked John Darnell to ask the NEAs to remind the Neighborhood Councils to place a motion on their agenda. Names and contact info should be sent to Jay Handal and Liz Amsden.

Item 15 was moved to after Item 17.

- 16. Confirm hard copies of the White Paper were delivered to all Neighborhood Councils and Budget Advocate reports are being delivered.

Barbara Ringuette left the meeting (11:29)

17. Status CityWatch articles – more articles are needed; perhaps comments from the Survey can be used as basis for articles.

15. Discussion and assignment of responsibilities for Budget Day. There will be a Budget Day planning meeting on May 23, 2018 to discuss logistics. Invitations will be sent to possible speakers including the Mayor and other regulars. Freddy Cupen-Ames is working on a new website portal for registration.

The meeting returned to item 18.

18. Hot issues

(a) Status of obtaining information on the RecycLA contracts and how to evaluate – so far 28,000 complaints about Recycle LA. were filed by February 2018 by Los Angeles residents and business owners. Paramount Pictures is addressing the lack of pick up with the City. West Los Angeles has trash being picked up before 5:00 AM.

Remaining items were tabled

19. New business. None

20. Adjournment.

BA ITEM 20 Adjourn Move: Jon Liberman Second: Jay Handal		
Yes –18	No	Abstain
Allen, Amsden, Bailey, Davis, DiGregorio, Edwards, Gory, Greenaway, Handal, Hornik, Humphreville, Katchen, Kidd, Liberman, C. Newman, Perry, Ramirez, Yvanek- Garb	NONE	NONE

The meeting was adjourned at 12:11 pm

The next scheduled meeting will be on Monday, June 4th at 7 pm at the DONE offices at City Hall. This meeting will include a round-table discussion on the future of the Budget Advocates and attendance is mandatory, in person, without the specific approval of the Co-Chairs.