



Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates

www.BudgetAdvocates.org

Zoom Meeting

December 4, 2023, 7:00 p.m.

Meeting #9 Minutes

Board Members	Roll Call	Region	Board Members	Roll Call	Region
Kevin Davis	Present at 7:08 p.m.	1	Barbara Ringuette	Present	7
Cindy Cleghorn	Present	1	David Hunter	Present	7
Lionel Mares	Present	1	Connie Acosta	Absent	7
Brian Allen	Present	2	Lynda Valencia	Absent	8
Garry Fordyce	Present	2	-----	-----	8
Scott Wright	Excused	2	-----	-----	8
Glenn Bailey	Present	3	Elias Garcia	Absent	9
David Uebersax	Absent	3	-----	-----	9
Jamie York	Present	3	-----	-----	9
Howard Katchen	Present at 7:20 p.m.	4	Jennifer Goodie	Excused	10
Brandon Pender	Present at 7:10 p.m.	4	Skei Saulnier	Absent	10
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Jack Humphreville	Present	5	Jay Handal	Present	11
-----	-----	5	Kay Hartman	Present	11
-----	-----	5	Adriana de la Cruz	Present	11
Ernesto Castro	Absent	6	Sheryl Akerblom	Present	12
-----	-----	6	Melanie Labrecque	Present at 7:10 p.m.	12
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- I. Welcome and Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Kay Hartman at 7:03 p.m., with a full quorum in attendance.
- II. Roll Call – See above.
 - A. Also in attendance were Budget Representatives: Theresa Maysonet (United Neighborhoods Neighborhood Council), Lena Ayvasian (Canoga Park Neighborhood Council), Leslie Weisberg (Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council) and Miran Kalaydjian (Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council / President, Winnetka Neighborhood Council). Connie Acosta was welcomed as a returning Budget Advocate from Region 7.
- III. MOTION to approve minutes from meeting #5 October 2, 2023 and #6 from October 21, 2023 and #7 from November 6, 2023
 - A. Jack Humphreville read a correction to replace the text in item 6a for meeting #5 on October 2, 2023. The corrections have been sent to Sheryl Akerblom for the revision.
Motion by Jay Handal to approve the minutes from meeting #5 on October 2, 2023, as corrected.
 Second by Adriana de la Cruz.
 MOTION PASSED, with 16 yes, 0 no, and 2 abstentions.

IV. Public Comment – None

V. Announcements

A. Announcements from DONE – (John Darnell)

1. John Darnell was not present.
2. Upon last month's meeting, Glenn Bailey informed John this would be a standing item on the agenda and encouraged him to submit announcements for Budget Advocates meetings, if not attending.

VI. New Business

A. Letter to the Mayor requesting funding for Budget Day

1. Kay, Glenn and Brian have a meeting scheduled tomorrow with Armando Ruiz, possibly also including additional DONE leadership, such as Vanessa and others.
2. The meeting will allow Budget Advocates Co-Chairs to formally present the budget, to discuss their situation and to address any possible questions.
3. Once it is clear what DONE's intentions are with the budget and how the department intends to allow Budget Advocates to access their funds, questions for the next meeting will become apparent.
4. The DONE budget includes \$10,000 for Budget Advocates, but this number is delineated within the \$20,000 for Congress and the \$10,000 line item is called "Congress budget advocacy."

B. Meeting with Mayor Bass. Where do we want to do it? Day or night?

C. MOTION to have Budget Advocates committee meetings be public meetings

1. The meetings would not have to be advertised to the public, but the public would be let in if they attend.
2. All attendees would be required to identify themselves.

Motion by Kay Hartman to approve that Budget Advocates committee meetings be public meetings. The meetings would not have to be advertised to the public, but the public would be let in if they attend. ~~All attendees would be required to identify themselves~~, second by Sheryl Akerblom.

Motion by Jay Handal to amend the motion by striking the second item of the motion, specifying that all people must identify themselves, second by Kay Hartman.

MOTION AMENDMENT PASSED with 14 yes, 2 noes, and 2 abstentions.

MOTION AS AMENDED PASSED with 13 yes, 0 no, and 3 abstentions.

VII. Old Business

A. Budget meeting with Armando Ruiz

1. Kay Hartman, Glenn Bailey, and Brian Allen will be meeting at 11:00 tomorrow morning with Armando Ruiz to review the DONE budget request and to have a discussion about how to access and raise Budget Advocates funds through Neighborhood Council contributions.
2. A meeting at 10:00 will review DONE's budget of \$4 million.

B. Vacancies (Cindy Cleghorn) - Seeking Budget Advocates for the following regions – One each in regions 4, 7, 10 and 12, and two each in regions 5, 6, 8, and 9. Election(s) in progress – update

1. Outreach will be continued in regions with single vacancies, but Cindy is moving forward to regions with two vacancies each, starting in regions 5 and 6.
2. Please pass along any possible names so Cindy can follow up.
3. Please also pass along information on Budget Representatives to keep the spreadsheet updated. Direct details to LABudgetAdvocates@gmail.com, or email Kay or Glenn directly.

C. Town Hall with Controller Kenneth Mejia Empowerment Congress, January 2024?

1. The Executive Committee is discussing the possibility of arranging the event in collaboration with the Empowerment Congress of Neighborhoods on January 13, 2024. This will be discussed in the meeting with DONE's Armando Ruiz tomorrow morning, to gauge interest.
2. This event has been free to produce on Zoom and has provided an excellent opportunity to drill down on the DONE budget. Seeing no objections, the group will move forward in planning the event.

D. Visiting NCs to make Budget Advocates Reports assignments? any challenges?

1. Budget Advocates are asked to ensure they are visiting their Neighborhood Councils regularly to provide reports and to receive questions.

2. Each Council should be visited at least once a quarter – which can be most achievable by aiming for every month.
 3. Coordinate with other members in the region to ensure all Councils are covered.
 4. Monitor meeting agendas to spot which councils meet virtually, or in hybrid meeting style, to make attending multiple meetings easier.
- E. Business Cards update – Cindy Cleghorn
1. Cindy is preparing the generic cards, as well as the specialized cards for the four members who requested them. Brandon, Garry, Howard and David Uebersax should send Cindy their name, phone number and email as they desire it to be printed on the card. Lionel may specify which style card he prefers.
 2. Cindy will proceed with printing, once she verifies the personal information of each.
- F. CF 11-1020-S3 (Budget Advocacy vs. Advocates) and NC Contributions
1. All updates on the matter will be discussed in tomorrow's meeting with DONE.
- G. Restoring annual Neighborhood Council budget allocation – CIS template wording – New wording since last meeting
1. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1N67vTVHfndwmhpkIGJhfbWD9k6F-dLVg/view>
 2. MOTION to approve sending this letter to the NCs
 - i. Jennifer provided updated language for a CIS template to be made available to Neighborhood Councils, should they want to weigh in on restoring the Budget Advocates' annual allocation of funds.
 - ii. Kay invited a motion to be made to add the newest language into the template. No one made a motion, therefore the language will be maintained as previously approved.
- H. Department Meetings
1. David reviewed the list to confirm the status of meetings scheduled by Budget Day department committees with their designated departments.
- I. Who do you know who is a Budget Rep who is not in this list?
1. Members are asked to update the list, or to contact Co-Chairs directly with any current information on Neighborhood Council Budget Representatives, presidents or treasurers.

VIII. Committee Reports

- A. Executive Committee – (Kay Hartman/Glenn Bailey)
 1. All items have been discussed. Next meeting is scheduled for December 9 at 1:30 p.m.
- B. Finance Committee – (Brian Allen)
 1. Brian will call a meeting of the Finance Committee.
- C. Outreach Committee – (Jennifer Goodie) – not in attendance
- D. Bylaws Committee – (Cindy Cleghorn)
 1. Cindy will work on Bylaws after elections are completed. Please review existing Bylaws and submit any notes to Cindy.
- E. Training and Education Committee – (Kevin Davis) – no new information
- F. Ad Hoc Editing Committee – No new information
- G. Ad Hoc Budget Day Committee
 1. The next meeting is scheduled for January.

IX. Informational Items

Controller Report Relative to Recommendations to more effectively Prepare the

- A. City of Los Angeles for Emergencies - [CF 22-1258](#)
- B. [Controller's Revenue Forecast](#)
- C. L.A. REPAIR Cohort 1 Program design and voting results. - [CF 21-1187](#)
- D. [Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes](#)
- E. [Mayor's 2023-2024 Budget Summary](#)
- F. [First Financial Status Report for Fiscal Year 2023-24 \(127 pages\)](#) – [CF 23-0600-S110](#)
- G. Mayor's [Executive Directive #5 "Improving Customer Service"](#) (MyLA311) issued October 30, 2023
- H. [Controller Preliminary Financial Report for Fiscal Year 2022-2023](#) – [CF 23-0600-S108](#)

X. Upcoming Meetings and Events

- A. ~~BONC Monday, November 20, 2023 1:00 p.m. CANCELED~~
- B. Budget, Finance and Innovation Committee, Wed., November 22, 2023 2:30 pm.
- C. HAPPY THANKSGIVING - November 23, 2023

- D. LANCC Saturday, December 2, 2023 10:00 a.m.
- E. Budget Advocates Monday, December 4, 2023 7:00 p.m.
- F. BONC Tuesday, December 5, 2023 6:00 p.m.
- G. NC Budget Day Saturday, June 15, 2024

XI. Items for Future Meeting Agendas

- A. Email items to LABudgetAdvocates@gmail.com

XII. Adjournment – Co-Chair Kay Hartman adjourned the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

Next meeting on December 16, 2023 at 9:30 a.m.

Minutes of Budget Advocate Meeting #9 (December 4, 2023)

ELSPETH WEINGARTEN

December 13, 2023