

# 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 7, 2016

7:00 pm

## Draft Minutes

Board Members	Roll Call	Region	Board Members	Roll Call	Region
Ivette Ale	Present (7:10 pm)	9	Brigette Kidd	Present (7:10 pm)	9
Brian Allen	Present	2	Keith Kirkwood	Present by Phone	5
Liz Amsden	Present by Phone	8	Jon Liberman	Present	11
Simone Best	Absent	3	Monica Massey	Absent	12
Julie Burg	Present by Phone (7:15 pm)	10	Michael Menjivar	Present	4
Kjiel Carlson	Present by Phone	10	William Morrison	Present	8
Kevin Davis	Present by Phone	1	Carol Newman	Present by Phone	3
Adrienne Edwards	Present	6	Christopher Perry	Present	9
Amy Foell	Present (7:15 pm)	7	Rick Ramirez	Present	1
Craig Goldfarb	Present by Phone	12	Barbara Ringuette	Present	7
Valaida Gory	Present	10	Marcus Rodriguez	Absent	7
Jay Handal	Present	11	Danielle Sandoval	Present by Phone	12
Jeanette Hopp	Absent	4	Patrick Seamans	Present	5
James Hornik	Notified absence	6	Lynda Valencia	Present	8
Jack Humphreville	Present	5	Krisna Velasco	Absent	2
Ann Job	Present	1	Joanne Yvanek-Garb	Absent	3
Howard Katchen	Present by Phone (7:20 pm)	4	<i>open seat</i>		2
Jacqueline Kennedy	Present	11	<i>open seat</i>		6

1. **Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Co-Chair Jay Handal.
2. **Roll Call:** A quorum of 27 board members was present (see list above). Jason Gallegos from Boyle Heights attended by phone. Mike Fong, DONE's Director of Policy and Government Relations, was also present.
3. **Public Comment:**
  - a. Mike Fong commented on several items:
    - i. Mike handed out a Budget and Finance report, a brief memo, relative to the 2016-17 appropriation limit (see attached). Note: this affects the overall spend, not necessarily individual department budgets.
    - ii. The first meeting of the NC Homeless Liaisons will be on Wednesday, November 30, at 6:00 pm in the DONE office in City Hall. The meeting is open to the public.
    - iii. Civic University 1.0 will be in January 2017 (January 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>).
    - iv. Neighborhood Council subdivision online application portal is now open. Applications must be submitted by December 16<sup>th</sup>.
4. **Approval of Minutes from Meeting #7 (Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>):**

Motion by **Jon Liberman** to approve the minutes for meeting #7, Saturday, October 15, 2016, seconded by **Brian Allen**, and passed (with minor changes) with 18 yeases (Allen, Amsden, Davis, Edwards, Gory, Handal, Humphreville, Kennedy, Kidd, Kirkwood, Liberman, Morrison, Newman, Perry, Ramirez, Ringuette, Sandoval, and Seamans), 0

noes, 5 abstentions (Carlson, Goldfarb, Job, Menjvar, and Valencia), and 4 not yet present (Ale, Burg, Foell, and Katchen).

5. **Treasurer's Report** - Howard Katchen, Treasurer – No report. Waiting for DONE to clarify accounts as the data appears to be incorrect.
6. **Housekeeping** – Jay Handal
  - a. Speakerphone – Still working on it.
  - b. Status of BAs' certifications – A complete list for Ethics and Code of Conduct training showing who has completed and who is missing these certifications was included in the agenda package and reviewed.
  - c. Website – Is up and running.
  - d. Headshots – For those who have still not provided headshots please forward them to Liz Amsden as soon as possible.
  - e. Filing Cabinet – Still working on it.
7. **Motion to release BA Farid Youssif in Region 2 and Rocky Valenzuela in Region 6 for non-participation. Possible motion to have Parliamentarian and ad hoc committee review Bylaws to allow for interim appointments in lieu of elections**
  - a. **Motion to release BA Farid Youssif in Region 2 and Rocky Valenzuela in Region 6 for non-participation.** An attendance roster was included in the agenda package and reviewed.

Motion by **Jon Liberman** to approve releasing BA Farid Youssif in Region 2 and Rocky Valenzuela in Region 6 for non-participation, seconded by **Brian Allen**, and passed with 25 yeases (Ale, Allen, Amsden, Burg, Davis, Edwards, Foell, Goldfarb, Gory, Handal, Humphreville, Job, Kennedy, Kidd, Kirkwood, Liberman, Menjvar, Morrison, Newman, Perry, Ramirez, Ringuette, Sandoval, Seamans, and Valencia), 0 noes, 1 abstention (Carlson), and 1 not yet present (Katchen).
  - b. **Possible motion to have Parliamentarian and an ad hoc committee review Bylaws to allow for interim appointments by the board in lieu of elections.**

Motion by **Craig Goldfarb** to approve having the existing/remaining elected Budget Advocates for the Region with a vacancy, to vote to appoint the person to fill the vacancy, seconded by **Liz Amsden**, and **failed** with 7 yeases (Amsden, Burg, Goldfarb, Gory, Katchen, Menjvar, and Sandoval), 20 noes (Ale, Allen, Carlson, Davis, Edwards, Foell, Handal, Humphreville, Job, Kennedy, Kidd, Kirkwood, Liberman, Morrison, Newman, Perry, Ramirez, Ringuette, Seamans, and Valencia), 0 abstentions.

Motion by **Jon Liberman** to approve having the executive appoint interim Budget Advocates in lieu of elections, seconded by **Ann Job**, and passed with 27 yeases (Ale, Allen, Amsden, Burg, Carlson, Davis, Edwards, Foell, Goldfarb, Gory, Handal, Humphreville, Job, Katchen, Kennedy, Kidd, Kirkwood, Liberman, Menjvar, Morrison, Newman, Perry, Ramirez, Ringuette, Sandoval, Seamans, and Valencia), 0 noes, and 0 abstentions.
8. **Report back on revising the Bylaws to clarify 'notified absence' and related issues:**

Motion by **Rick Ramirez** to approve having Parliamentarian draft revised language for the Bylaws to clarify 'notified absence' and related issues to be reviewed at the next meeting, seconded by **William Morrison**, and passed with 26 yeases (Ale, Allen, Amsden, Burg, Carlson, Davis, Edwards, Goldfarb, Gory, Handal, Humphreville, Job, Katchen, Kennedy, Kidd, Kirkwood, Liberman, Menjvar, Morrison, Newman, Perry, Ramirez, Ringuette, Sandoval, Seamans, and Valencia), 1 noes (Foell), and 0 abstentions.
9. **Reports on material issues regarding connecting with Budget Reps, Neighborhood Councils and Alliances:**

- a. For those who have not yet attended your assigned NC meetings please do so by the next BA meeting and log the information on the Google doc.
- b. City Councilmembers want to know that BAs are going to NCs and making direct contact.
- c. Once you attend one or two NC meetings and connect with the board members and Budget Representatives, when people can't attend Budget Reps can give a report based on what you send them.

10. **Outreach:**

- a. Newsletter status
  - i. Jay is still not receiving material for the newsletter from anyone.
  - ii. People can submit brief reports on their meetings with departments, summaries of their reports, etc.
- b. Facebook page
  - i. Adrienne and Jaqueline would like BAs to repost content (their newsletter submissions, etc.) to get more 'likes' for the BAs' Facebook page.
  - ii. Jon Liberman suggested that on the back of the survey cards they include the link to our Facebook page.
  - iii. Adrienne suggested adding a link to the Facebook page to the survey.

11. **Survey update** – Danielle Sandoval, Chair

- a. Working on next round of survey questions.
- b. There have only been 35 responses to the current survey so far.
- c. Danielle asked for business cards to hand out with the information on the survey (previously approved). Jay will handle.
- d. Jay brought up requesting NC websites put a button/link to the NCBALA website for the survey

12. **Committee Reports** – Liz Amsden

- a. Jay reviewed status of committees – people need to complete interviews and submit reports to Jack, copying Jay and Liz. Please update the Committees google doc – people experiencing problems doing so, please e-mail Liz and she will input the information.

13. **White Paper Update** – Jack Humphreville

- a. Barbara Ringuette commented that she thought that the reports from the committees were important and that they ought to be whatever length they need to be. She had some ideas about making them more readable, it's important that people want to read them. She thinks it is important that everything has a positive tone, and that things be moving forward, not just complaints, it's easy to complain, but that we make suggestions about how to move forward with a good budget.
- b. Jack commented that Barbara is right, doing the committee reports is good discipline and gives us institutional knowledge.
- c. Jack commented that the department reports should include follow up on how departments did with last year's recommendations.
- d. Patrick Seamans commented, in terms of the White Paper, we should use readily understandable language.

14. **New Business**

- a. Discussion of written motion by Jon Liberman focused on whether to include calling for the replacement of the Executive Director or simply requesting a meeting to discuss concerns. Motion by **Jon Liberman** for the BAs to write a letter to LAHSA requesting a meeting to discuss financial issues brought up in a recent Channel 2 broadcast, seconded by **Adrienne Edwards**. Passed with 27 yeases (Ale, Allen, Amsden, Burg, Carlson, Davis, Edwards, Foell, Goldfarb, Gory, Handal, Humphreville, Job, Katchen, Kennedy, Kidd, Kirkwood, Liberman, Menjvar, Morrison, Newman, Perry, Ramirez,

Ringuette, Sandoval, Seamans, and Valencia), 0 noes, and 0 abstentions. Jon to send Barbara a draft amending his original (written) motion pursuant to the discussion.

- b. Danielle Sandoval advised that the Park Advisory Board of Anderson Senior Center in San Pedro had requested the BAs' assistance to obtain more funding. They have no budget as they are under the Department of Aging, not Recreation and Parks. Danielle to check with Aging whether the Anderson Senior Center should be moved to Rec and Parks for funding; also if other senior centers are facing the same issues.
15. **Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 pm. The next scheduled meeting is Saturday, November 19, at the West LA Municipal Building at 10 am.

Respectfully submitted, Sheryl Akerblom  
for the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates