

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL BUDGET ADVOCATES MEETING #3
MEETING BETWEEN 2015—2016 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR OF 2016—2017
LOS ANGELES CITY HALL, 20TH FLOOR
200 N. SPRING STREET, LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
AUGUST 3, 2015

ROLL CALL

Co-Chair Gomes called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM. Secretary Morales called the role:

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mr. Kevin Davis (1) 7:10 PM
Mr. Juan Salas (1)
Ms. Krystee Clark (1)
Parliamentarian Glenn Bailey (2)
Ms. Becky Leveque (2)
Ms. Joanne Yvanek-Garb (3)
Mr. Harvey Goldberg (3)
Treasurer Howard Katchen (4)
Mr. Brandon Pender (4) 7:22 PM
Ms. Elvina Beck (5)
Dr. Patrick Seamans (5) 7:10 PM
Mr. Charles Lindenblatt (5)
Assistant Secretary Linda Lee (6)
Mr. Nelson Castillo (6)
Mr. Scott Bytof (6)
Co-Vice-Chair Susan Reimers (7) 7:10 PM
Ms. Barbara Ringuette (7) 7:48 PM
Mr. Marcus Rodriguez (7)
Ms. Liz Amsden (8)
Ms. Fanny Ortiz (8) 7:11 PM
Ms. Veronica Torres-Matthews (9)
Mr. Brett Shears (10)
Secretary Erick Morales (10)
Ms. Ayana McCowen (10)
Co-Chair Jay Handal (11)
Co-Chair Terrence Gomes (11)
Mr. Hayes Thrower (12)
Ms. Danielle Sandoval (12)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Ms. Krisna Velasco (2)
Ms. C.R. Cochrane (3)
Ms. Jeanette Hopp (4)
Ms. Marisol Sanchez (8)
Ms. Margaret Peters (9)
Ms. Monica Hernandez (9)
Mr. Jon Liberman (11)
Ms. Joan Jacobs (12)

GUESTS: Commissioner Lydia Grant

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Joanne Yvanek-Garb provided comment on the City Council's Budget and Finance committee meeting she attended earlier in the day. The committee discussed short-term rentals such as AirBnB and four people made public comments. The committee decided to send the matter to the City Attorney for advice on policy and procedures. The matter should return to Budget and Finance no earlier than six months from today.

Mr. Davis, Dr. Seamans, and Co-Vice-Chair Reimers joined the meeting at 7:10 PM. Ms. Ortiz joined the meeting at 7:11 PM

ADMINISTRATION: PARKING PASSES, BUSINESS CARDS, MEETING MINUTES, WEBSITE, EMAIL NAMING CONVENTIONS

If NCBAs have failed to input their information into a Google Doc that was sent around at the beginning of the cycle, they will not receive their parking pass or business cards in a timely fashion. Gomes will request proofs for business cards that will be distributed to the NCBAs as soon as possible.

Co-Chair Gomes requested that all committee meeting minutes to Elvina Beck to be posted on the NCBAs website. These minutes do not have to be formal, but must simply cover the activities that occurred in the meeting. Some of the NCBAs requested that Ms. Beck look into creating a private section on the website open only to NCBAs for their discussion. Ms. Beck, Co-Vice-Chair Reimers, and Co-Chair Gomes will have a conference call to discuss further issues on the website.

Emails sent by NCBAs in the future must adhere to the following naming convention: BA-Committee-Subject. This will allow for emails easily become searchable and inform NCBAs of the message's contents.

BUDGET REPORT FOR NCBAs

Treasurer Katchen reported to the NCBAs that \$3,008.94 dollars remain in the account from last year, including deductions made from Budget Day on June 27th. The neighborhood councils have also donated \$28,889.29, giving the NCBAs over \$30,000 in funds for the year. Treasurer Katchen asked the NCBAs to consider whether more money is needed and if such requests of the neighborhood councils should be included with funding requests from the Congress of Neighborhoods. The NCBAs can also accept donations throughout the year. Ms. Amsden informed the NCBAs that some NCs have asked why they should continue to donate money to the NCBAs and that this concern should be addressed in further requests for funds.

Treasurer Katchen will put together a budget before Regional Budget Day that will be distributed to attendees, many of whom will be neighborhood councilmembers. With this budget, the NCBAs can request that the NCs consider giving more money. Each NC will be asked to consider donating at least \$250 to the NCBAs.

Mr. Pender joined the meeting at 7:22 PM.

DISCUSSION ON REGIONAL BUDGET DAY (OCTOBER 17, 2015): SECURE LOCATIONS, IDENTIFY LEADERS, AND VOTE ON BUDGET OF \$2500

Co-Chair Gomes asked of the NCBAs present to provide locations that had already been secured for the event: REGIONS 1, 2, 3, AND 4: Ms. Yvanek-Garb informed the NCBAs that the Braude Center was to be secured by Ms. Hopp, but there is no firm update as of today.

REGIONS 5, 6, 7, AND 8: Ms. Ortiz reported that Boyle Heights City Hall would be looked into as venue for the East. No possible venue was provided for the Harbor region.

REGIONS 9 AND 10: Ms. Matthews-Torres informed the NCBAs that Council District 9 Constituent Center (4301 S. Central Ave.) was already secured for Regional Budget Day.

REGION 11: Co-Chair Gomes reported that West Los Angeles City Hall will also be a venue.

Each region will have a budget of \$500 to spend on their event. The NCBAs will be responsible for paying any venue costs and for light refreshments with the funds. A total of \$2,500 will be spent.

Assistant Secretary Lee moved to have the NCBAs spend \$2,500 on the five events. Ms. Yvanek-Garb seconded. The 27 NCBAs present UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED the request.

TRAINING: MEETING GUIDELINES TO DIRECT WHITE PAPER

Ms. Amsden asked that the committees complete some research on their departments before August 15th. Questions were sent to the NCBAs for their use in department meetings. Some questions can be used before the

meeting and others during. All meetings with department heads should be completed by the end of September. Any records of the meetings should be promptly sent to the White Paper Committee. These records should then be distilled into a report for the White Paper and be sent to both the committee and the Co-Chairs. A specific format will be provided to the NCBA's soon. The NCBA's should include data and supporting conclusions in their reports. A three-paragraph summary of the meeting should also be provided to Co-Vice-Chair Clark on the events of the committee's meetings with general managers.

Non-NCBA's can also be included in committee meetings and discussions. Furthermore, it was suggested that think-tank committees on subjects like homelessness and infrastructure be included for the White Paper. The possibility of an Education Committee for the new NCBA's was also discussed.

COMMITTEE GOALS

Treasurer Katchen presented the following three over-arching goals for all of the NCBA's committees:

1. Create relationships, interaction and cooperation with department General Manager and staff sharing information freely between the department and the committee
2. Understand how the department works and what the committee can do to help
3. Investigate and determine best practices for operations and budget

Treasurer Katchen envisions these goals as a "north star" that will guide committee meetings and work. He also suggested that the NCBA's ask general managers and other city executives open-ended questions to receive "open-ended answers."

Co-Chair Gomes suggested that the NCBA's also meet with department commissioners to learn more about their specific departments and obtain as much valuable information as possible.

Ms. Ringuette joined the meeting at 7:48 PM.

COMMITTEE REPORTS, ARTICLES FOR THE NCBA NEWSLETTER, AND REPORT CARD UPDATE
LAPD/LAFD/EMS—Chair Castillo reported that the committee had met on the past Saturday with three members out of six. The meeting was solely organizational, with the election of the chair. Mr. Castillo asked the NCBA's present to provide any information they may have, including past reports.

CITY ATTORNEY—Erick Morales and Jon Liberman were elected Co-Chairs. The committee met at 5 PM before this meeting and discussed the City Attorney's role in municipal government.

PUBLIC WORKS—Chair Susan Reimers described the meeting as organizational, dividing tasks for the future. The committee will meet regularly on the third Thursday of the month at 6:30 PM. Subcommittees will be created under the banner of Public Works.

CAO—Chair Joanne Yvanek-Garb informed the NCBA's that a meeting has been held at 6 PM. The committee discussed several topics, including who the CAO actually works for.

PENSIONS—Chair Harvey Goldberg informed the NCBA's that minutes had been made for a meeting that had been held. Information from last year would be used this year.

AGING/DISABILITY—Fanny Ortiz reported for Chair Marisol Sanchez. The committee members had agreed to set up meetings with departments and meet every month or two months in person.

CULTURAL AFFAIRS/ZOO/REC AND PARKS—Chair Juan Salas reported on the organizational meeting held for the committee the previous Saturday. Erick Morales will serve as Vice-Chair and there will be several

point persons for the individual departments: Ms. Yvanek-Garb for the Zoo, Parliamentarian Bailey for Rec and Parks, and Co-Vice-Chair Clark for Cultural Affairs.

PERSONNEL/CONVENTION CENTER—Erick Morales and Jon Liberman will be Co-Chairs. The committee met on the previous Friday and discussed issues within the departments from past years.

INFORMATION TECH—Chair Brett Shears reported that the committee met on the 29th of July. The members vetted questions and will soon meet with Ted Ross, who has recently been nominated by Mayor Garcetti to be the permanent general manager of the Information Technology Agency (ITA).

CITY CLERK—Met to select a chair (Charles Lindenblatt) and Vice-Chair (Jeanette Hopp). The committee came up with three goals: to know the proposed budget, to have a budget sufficient for needs and accomplish goals, and to look ahead to the 2017 elections. The committee would also investigate whether the City Clerk will conduct NC elections this year and into the future, with the City no longer conducting elections after 2017.

BUDGET REPORT CARD/SURVEY—Co-Chair Clark reported that the survey must be placed in as many places as possible to receive a high response rate. It will also follow an easy design that will allow for paper responses to be collected and entered to a data system. A rough draft is complete, but a final will be uploaded when Constant Contact or Survey Monkey are purchased for use. Co-Chair Gomes requested that the committee try to complete the survey by the end of Friday. Other methods to get the survey out to stakeholders were also discussed, including the use of tablets. The results of this survey should be included into the White Paper as they give the NCBAs legitimacy in meetings with the Mayor and City Council. The survey will go through Regional Budget Day to generate more publicity.

The importance of content for a blog and newsletter were also discussed. Parliamentarian Bailey suggested that deadlines for content may be necessary.

Ms. Amsden left the meeting at 8 PM. Dr. Seamans left the meeting at 8:21 PM.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO DEVELOP SUBCOMMITTEES

The following suggestions were made for new “sub-committees” within the NCBAs:

1. LADWP—to be conducted by the NC-DWP MOU Committee with the assistance of Mr. Jack Humphreville and Mr. Tony Wilkinson
2. Harbor Department—to be conducted by the Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils
3. LA World Airports—to be conducted by the Westchester NC with the assistance of Mr. Denny Schneider

These groups will be responsible for driving discussion on certain topics and providing the NCBAs with relevant information. Suggestions were made for other discussion participants, including the Van Nuys Airport Advisory Board, which includes some NC board members.

Ms. Joanne Yvanek-Garb moved to have the sub-committees created. Co-Vice-Chair Reimers seconded. The 27 NCBAs present UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED the request.

Secretary Morales presented the NCBAs with the minutes from the June 27th and July 18th minutes.

Assistant Secretary Lee moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Goldberg seconded. The 27 NCBAs present UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED the request.

ADJOURNMENT

WITHOUT OBJECTION, Co-Chair Gomes adjourned the meeting at 8:38 PM. The next scheduled meeting of the NCBAs will be held at West Los Angeles City Hall on August 15, 2015 at 10 AM.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:
ERICK M. MORALES
2015—2016 NCBA's SECRETARY

DRAFT