

Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates

www.budgetadvocates.org



Zoom Meeting
Monday, October 5, 2020, 7:00 p.m.
Meeting #8 Minutes

Board Members	Roll Call	Region	Board Members	Roll Call	Region
John DiGregorio	Present	1	Barbara Ringuette	Present	7
Lanira Murphy	Present 7:20	1	Connie Acosta	Present	7
Michael Ebenkamp	Absent	1	Seth Copenhaver	Present	7
Brian Allen	Present	2	Jamie Tijerina	Present	8
Glenn Bailey	Present	2	Liz Amsden	Present	8
Garry Fordyce	Present	2	Clint Birdsong	Present	8
Carol Newman	Present	3	Elias Garcia	Present	9
Lee Blumenfeld	Present	3	Albert Farias	Present	9
Pat Bates	Present	3	Leslie Gamero	Present	9
Peter Haderlein	Present	4	Jennifer Goodie	Present	10
Howard Katchen	Present	4	Edmond Warren	Present 7:10	10
Brandon Pender	Present	4	Hugo Rodriguez	Present	10
Jack Humphreville	Present	5	Jay Handal	Present	11
Julia Moser	Excused	5	Jacqueline Le Kennedy	Excused	11
Daniel Perez	Absent	5	Jon Liberman	Present	11
Ernesto Castro	Present 7:43, re-entering 7:53	6	Danielle Sandoval	Present	12
Naira Harootunian	Absent	6	Claricza Ortiz	Present 7:48	12
Margarita Lopez	Absent	6	Gina Martinez	Excused	12

1. Call to order / Roll Call: The meeting was called to order by Co-chair Liz Amsden at 7:04 p.m., with a quorum reached at that time. See above for Roll Call. Budget Representatives present were: KJ Clark (Empowerment Congress West Area NDC), Jason Hector (Porter Ranch NC), Kay Hartman (Palms NC) and Josh Nadal (Palms NC). Also present were: Tracey Brown (Empowerment Congress West Area NDC), Alexandria Naseef (Sherman Oaks NC), Gloria Dioum (South Robertson NC), David Pugo (Boyle Heights NC), Analissa Mejia (Boyle Heights Stakeholders Association), Veta Gashgai (Boyle Heights), Adrianna De La Cruz, Heather Budman and Christine Stemar, as well as Carmen Higueros and Jorge Rodas (Spanish language translators) and John Darnell (NEA, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment).

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2. Public Comment on non-agenda items:
 - Budget Reps: Kay Hartman, KJ Clark
 - Stakeholders: Veta Gashgai, Analissa Mejia, Alexandria Naseef, Adriana De La Cruz
3. Motion to approve minutes for Meeting #6 (August 31) and status of minutes for Meeting #7 (September 15): A draft of minutes for Meeting #6 has been received but not reviewed or circulated, and no minutes have been received for Meeting #7. Apple One is looking into the latter.
4. Motion to approve a Financial Report for the current period:
Lanira moved to postpone voting on the Financial Report. Jennifer seconded. Discussion followed. MOTION PASSED with 20 for, 6 opposed and no abstentions.
5. Motion to approve \$100 (discounted from \$150) for a Budget Advocate mailbox for billing purposes with Neighborhood Council Services (Kristina Smith): Jay moved to approve the item. Garry seconded. Discussion followed. MOTION PASSED with 19 for, 6 opposed and 2 abstentions.
6. Motion to approve up to \$2,500 for LAPD Committee video subject to timely submission of budgets, approved scripts and other relevant materials [Daniel]: Jay moved to postpone voting on the item. Brian seconded. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY with 28 for, none opposed and no abstentions. Liz to follow up with committee chairs Jay and Daniel about relevant materials.
7. Discussion and motion to approve the report on Grievance #1 [Carol]: Carol moved to approve the report. Albert seconded. Carol read descriptions of the grievances and their proceedings. , MOTION PASSED with 18 for, 6 opposed and 4 abstentions.
8. Status of other grievances [Carol]: Grievance #2 has been resolved, with the report sent to Liz for consideration at the meeting on October 17. Carol will contact panel members for Grievance #3 to schedule a hearing date. Grievance #4 has been withdrawn.
9. Proposed response at BONC to DONE's report on the Budget Advocates [Liz]: Raquel Beltran, General Manager of DONE, held a meeting with the Budget Advocates on Friday to review a report about the Budget Advocates, and other matters which will be discussed at Tuesday night's BONC meeting. The Co-Chairs will attend to address and other Budget Advocates are welcome to attend to address their concerns.
10. State of the City Budget [Jack]: Jack reiterated that the City has not adequately addressed how to finance the budget shortfall but it will almost certainly mean employee layoffs and furloughs which will impact services to City residents.

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11. Status Budget Advocate presentations to Neighborhood Councils [John]: The presentation is being finalized and, subject to the results of a survey currently being developed, will be tailored with A, B and C options for individual Neighborhood Councils based on their understanding of the Budget Advocates and their work,.
12. Status Town Halls [John]: The planned date is now November 14 at 5 or 6 pm. Eventbrite registration will go live on Wednesday October 11. Save the Date flyers are being finalized this week. Paid ads will launch on social media on November 1, to run through November 14. Liz requested John submit a budget for the event. People available to help with flyers or with ideas for the event should contact John DiGregorio.
13. Training update [Albert]: The first training module about the City Budget and Department Structure along with brief descriptions about the City Departments, are on the Budget Advocate website. Albert is working on a second module about creative ways to engage with Neighborhood Councils. He is also planning a Zoom Q&A session to address further questions.
14. Update on Budget Advocate website and social media [Julia]: The new website, www.BudgetAdvocates.org, went live on September 26.
15. Discussion and approval of any committee paper(s) ready for distribution [Liz]: No papers were submitted. Discussion on publishing guidelines which will apply to articles people would like published on the Budget Advocate CityWatch page and the Budget Advocate website as well as to all committee papers.
16. Status on Committees [Liz]: Julia is working on improving the website so committees can post agendas and other information on the Budget Advocate website. In the meantime, please submit updates to Liz on the status of committees.
17. Report-back on budget presentation and networking session at the virtual Congress of Neighborhoods [Jack]: Jack reported on the Budget Advocate presentation in the main session and a networking session afterwards. The link to the main session is currently available at www.NCCongressLA.com and the networking session on the True City Budget with Ron Galperin and Jack Humphreville at <https://www.budgetadvocates.org/videos>.
18. New Business: Jason Hector requested we expedite Pat Bates' report on concerns about the Sepulveda Basin.
19. Adjournment: Carol moved to adjourn at 9:37 pm. John DiGregorio seconded. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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The next Budget Advocate meeting will be on Saturday, October 17 at 9:30 am.
Please submit items for consideration to the Co-Chairs by October 10.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

Minutes of Budget Advocate meeting #8 (October 5)

ELSPETH WEINGARTEN
October 8, 2020

NCBA APPROVED: November 2, 2020