

Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates

www.ncbala.com

1645 Corinth Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90025
Saturday, September 16, 2017
10:00 am – 12 noon



Meeting #6 – Approved Minutes

Board Members	Roll Call	Region	Board Members	Roll Call	Region
Ivette Ale	Present by phone	9	Brigitte Kidd	Present	9
Brian Allen	Present	2	Janet Kim	Absent	7
Liz Amsden	Excused	8	Melanie Labrecque	Present	12
Glenn Bailey	Present	2	Jon Liberman	Present	11
Agnes Copeland	Present	5	Michael Menjivar	Present	4
Freddy Cupen-Ames	Present at 10:40 am	4	William Morrison	Absent	8
Carol Derby-David	Present	10	Carol Newman	Present	3
Kevin Davis	Absent	1	Robert Newman	Present by phone	6
John DiGregorio	Present	1	Christopher Perry	Present	9
Adrienne Nicole Edwards	Resigned	6	Rick Ramirez	Present by phone	1
Don Evans	Absent	3	Barbara Ringuette	Present	7
Valaida Gory	Present	10	Estuardo Ruano	Present	7
Diedra Greenaway	Present	2	Danielle Sandoval	Resigned	12
Jay Handal	Present	11	Patrick Seamans	Present by phone	5
James Hornik	Present	6	Eleanor Smith	Excused	10
Jack Humphreville	Present	5	Dr. Princess Sykes	Absent	12
Howard Katchen	Present at 10:30 am	4	Lynda Valencia	Present	8
Jacqueline Le Kennedy	Present by phone	11	Joanne Yvanek-Garb	Present	3

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am by Chair Jay Handal.
2. **Roll Call:** A quorum of 27 board members was present (see list above). Budget Representatives Jeanette Hopp from Van Nuys, and Garry Fordyce from North Hills West and John Darnell, DONE's Neighborhood Council Advocate, were also present.
3. **Public Comment** – None
4. **Approval of Minutes from Meeting #5 (September 5th)** – Approval of minutes postponed.
5. **Treasurer's Report and Motion to Approve. Update on issues with DONE** – Howard Katchen, Treasurer, not yet present, Jay Handal reported
 - a. Update on issues with DONE – Budget Advocates account balance is \$50,409.33, and DONE account balance is \$9,402.08, for a total of \$59,811.41. Motion by **Jon Liberman** to approve the Treasurers Report, second by **Joanne Yvanek-Garb**, and passed with 25 ayes (Ale, Allen, Bailey, Copeland, Derby-David, DiGregorio, Gory, Greenaway, Handal, Hornik, Humphreville, Kennedy, Kidd, Labrecque, Liberman, Menjivar, C. Newman, R. Newman, Perry, Ramirez, Ringuette, Ruano, Seamans, Valencia, and Yvanek-Garb), 0 no, 0 abstentions, and 2 not yet present (Cupen-Ames and Katchen).
 - b. Next week Brian Allen will ask DONE what expenses are allowed to be paid out of the DONE funds.
 - c. Glenn Bailey requested that the BAs establish/confirm proper protocols regarding NC donations to BAs and Congress, and add a page on the website to acknowledge donations received from NCs.

6. Nominations & Election of Assistant Secretary

- a. Jacqueline Le Kennedy has stepped down as Assistant Secretary.
Motion by **Brigette Kidd** to appoint Brigette Kidd as Assistant Secretary, second by **Jon Liberman**, and passed with 25, 0 no, 0 abstentions, and 2 not yet present.
- b. Adrienne Edwards has resigned from Budget Advocates.
Motion by **Jay Handal** to elect John DiGregorio to serve as Vice Chair Communication and Outreach Chair, second by **Robert Newman**, and passed with 25, 0 no, 0 abstentions, and 2 not yet present.

7. Motion to change Organizations names: Citizens Oversight Committee for L.A.s Budget & City Services:

- a. This is the first notice of the name change per the bylaws.
- b. The second and final notice of the name and bylaws change will be at the next meeting.
- c. A new domain name and business cards will be necessary.
- d. One possible new name, Neighborhood Council Budget and City Services Oversight Committee (NCBCSOC).

8. Working with Budget Representatives and Neighborhood Councils

- a. Everyone please update the Google doc when you visit an NC.
- b. If the Google doc is updated BAs from other regions can help cover areas in need.

9. Outreach committee report – John DiGregorio

- a. Needs weekly updates from every BA and then he will work with Jay and Liz to get coverage of NCs.
- b. John has created a 2 slide PowerPoint document with talking points that will be updated weekly.
- c. Wants to film at NC meetings. Need to check with the City Attorney for filming consent language that should be posted on all NC websites.
- d. Please send John pictures and a written report from NC visits.
- e. He will be producing a biweekly video, similar to a television newscast, with updates.
- f. All the information that he has asked for will be leveraged for content for the CityWatch campaign.
- g. Glenn requested that John prioritize the regions that are not getting to NC meetings.
- h. Motion by **Jon Liberman** to approve allocating \$1,000 a month to pay CityWatch. This will start as of October 1, 2017 and shall run month-to-month where BA retains the ability to cancel as the end of any given month, second by **John DiGregorio**, and passed with 27 ayes (Ale, Allen, Bailey, Copeland, Cupen-Ames, Derby-David, DiGregorio, Gory, Greenaway, Handal, Hornik, Humphreville, Katchen, Kennedy, Kidd, Labrecque, Liberman, Menjivar, C. Newman, R. Newman, Perry, Ramirez, Ringuette, Ruano, Seamans, Valencia, and Yvanek-Garb), 0 no, and 0 abstentions.

10. Bylaws committee report – Carol Newman

- a. They will meet within the next week.
- b. Changes will be piecemeal, as there are a lot of changes to be made.

11. Grievance Panel report and motion

- a. The panel is meeting immediately following this meeting.
- b. Need to produce a response report within 10 days.

12. Report on how much money has gone back to the General Fund from each department – and what budgeted items did not get fulfilled – Jack Humphreville

- a. Basically, no one knows, as it is impossible to trace.
- b. The three places it was suggested that they look for this information are; the year end Financial Status Report, the reserve fund of the adopted budget, and the Controllers Preliminary Financial Report.
- c. Ask in department meetings 'How much did you give back and why?'

13. Update on working with the Mayors Budget Team – Jack Humphreville

- a. He has not heard back from Matt Szabo.

Motion by **Jay Handal** to approve a letter to the Mayor and the City Council stating:
The Budget Advocates' work is hampered by our inability to be in on the ground floor of the budget development process with the Departments and the Mayor's Office. Therefore, the Budget Advocates strongly request, that for transparency, they be allowed to be involved in the budget development process from day one with the Departments and the Mayor's Office, second by **Robert Newman**, and passed with 27 ayes, 0 no, and 0 abstentions.

- b. Glenn asked that a formal request be made to the Mayor's budget team that they send the Budget Advocates a copy of the Mayor's Budget Letter to the Departments at the same time they send it to the departments.

14. Revenue Committee report – No report

15. Updates on committee meetings with Departments, include request to do brief interview following – Please update the Google doc when you book meetings with departments.

16. Update on White Paper plans

- a. Need a theme by next meeting.
b. Jack suggests this year's White Paper focus on the Structural Deficit/Gap.

17. Regional Budget Day Committee report – deferred due to time constraints

18. Scheduling of Budget Day 2018 - Proposed June 16, 2018

- a. Proposed dates for Regional Budget Day are January 20th, or 27th.
b. Annual Budget Day will be on June 16, 2018.

19. Early planning for a Budget 101 training and information session for the FY 2018-2019 incoming Budget Representatives and potential Advocates prior to the 2018 Budget Day
– deferred due to time constraints

20. Report on Congress of Neighborhoods workshop – deferred due to time constraints

21. Status on Video conferencing – Brian Allen

- a. Have equipment for one system, and will get it set up for demo at next meeting.
b. Then will demo the other two systems at following meetings.

22. Housekeeping – deferred due to time constraints

- a. Parking passes – getting passes back
b. BA business cards

23. New Business

- a. Controller, Ron Galperin has issued a report on the Recreation and Parks Department parks that is very transparent. He will provide the link to BAs.

24. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 pm. The next scheduled meeting is Monday, October 2nd at 7:00 pm in the DONE offices.

Respectfully submitted, Sheryl Akerblom
for the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates