

# Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates

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**Zoom Meeting  
June 1, 2020, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.**



## Meeting #23 Minutes

| Board Members      | Roll Call          | Region | Board Members         | Roll Call             | Region |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------|
| Kevin Davis        | Absent             | 1      | Connie Acosta         | Present until 8:20    | 7      |
| John DiGregorio    | Present 7:06       | 1      | VACANT                | -----                 | 7      |
| VACANT             | -----              | 1      | Barbara Ringuette     | Present               | 7      |
| Brian Allen        | Present            | 2      | Dentis Fowlkes        | Present until 9:00    | 8      |
| Glenn Bailey       | Present            | 2      | Brian McCain          | Absent                | 8      |
| Garry Fordyce      | Present            | 2      | Jamie Tijerina        | Absent                | 8      |
| Jeffrey Mausner    | Present            | 3      | Elias Garcia          | Present               | 9      |
| Carol Newman       | Present            | 3      | Nikita Jones-Houston  | Present               | 9      |
| Joanne Yvanek-Garb | Excused            | 3      | Albert Farias         | Present               | 9      |
| Jeanette Hopp      | Present            | 4      | Tracey Brown          | Present               | 10     |
| Howard Katchen     | Present 9:28       | 4      | Carol Derby-David     | Present               | 10     |
| Brandon Pender     | Present            | 4      | Jennifer Goodie       | Present               | 10     |
| Jack Humphreville  | Present until 8:30 | 5      | Jay Handal            | Present               | 11     |
| Patrick Seamans    | Present            | 5      | Jacqueline Le Kennedy | Present               | 11     |
| Charles Taylor     | Absent             | 5      | Jon Liberman          | Present               | 11     |
| Ernesto Castro     | Present            | 6      | Melanie Labrecque     | Present until 9:12    | 12     |
| Nina Smith         | Absent             | 6      | Danielle Sandoval     | Excused, Present 7:40 | 12     |
| VACANT             | -----              | 6      | Dr. Princess Sykes    | Absent                | 12     |

1. Call to order: The meeting was called to order by Co-chair Carol Newman at 7:05 p.m. with a full quorum reached at that time.
2. Roll Call: See above. In addition, Budget Representatives present were Kay Hartman (Palms NC) and Tina Chinakarn (Palms NC). Also present were Josh Nadel (Stakeholder, Palms NC), John Darnell (Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate, DONE), Ellen Evans (Bel Air-Beverly Crest NC), and Edwin Chen (Woodland Hills-Warner Center NC).
3. Public Comment: John Darnell: Check in.
4. Approval of minutes from Meetings #21 and #22 (Carol Newman and Kay Hartman): Jon Liberman requested the correction of Josh Nadal's title from

Budget Representative to Stakeholder. Kay confirmed that the minutes reflect this. Carol Newman moved for the approval of minutes #21 and #22. Jon Liberman seconded. No abstentions, no oppositions. MOTION PASSED.

5. Treasurer's Report (Howard Katchen): Glenn Bailey acknowledged Howard's work as Treasurer. The account shows that payments are current to the note-taker, but three months behind to the webmaster. Glenn asked Carol Newman and Jack Humphreville to help make sure that the board is up to date on invoices and payments. Glenn moved to request that the treasurer be present at the next meeting – which is the last meeting – and that a report of all unpaid items be presented to provide an accounting of what was paid and what was not. Garry Fordyce seconded. Glenn will tell Howard about the motion. Jon Liberman moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Jay Handal seconded. One abstention, no oppositions. MOTION PASSED.
6. Discussion with Professor Abdullah regarding the People's Budget (KJ Clark, Professor Abdullah): Postponed until the next meeting.
7. Recruitment of Budget Representatives (Barbara Ringuette, John DiGregorio): Discussion on the issue. The people in charge of running regional meetings will be contacted and given the appropriate information to be able to do so. All Budget Advocates should be contacting their Neighborhood Councils about the meetings and elections. For those without Budget Representatives, NC presidents and treasurers will be considered Budget Representatives. Those running the rooms must be prepared to ask all participants who they are, their Neighborhood Council, and position in a non-confrontational way to confirm eligibility to vote. BAs must reach out to NCs find out who their Budget Reps are and get the information to John DiGregorio by the next (last) meeting so it will be apparent where the gaps are.
8. Notifying previously confirmed speakers that Budget Day has been cancelled (Glenn Bailey, Jack Humphreville and Howard Katchen):  
Confirmed speakers: Susan Shelley, Jack Humphreville, Tommy Newman (United Way --homelessness), Kelly Cavanaugh (LA Times – tentative), Jay Handal, Kevin James, Jacob Wexler:  
  
Susan Shelley: Glenn contacted her, but hasn't received confirmation.  
Tommy Newman: Jack - confirmed  
Kelly Cavanaugh: Jack - confirmed  
Normal Pearlstein: Jack- confirmed  
Kevin James: Jack reported that Howard Katchen contacted him  
Jacob Wexler: Barbara- confirmed  
Bill Allen: Barbara - confirmed
9. Status of and plans for breakout sessions and elections June 27 and 28 (Carol Newman, Jack Humphreville and Barbara Ringuette):

- a. Publicity regarding breakout sessions and elections (Jay Handal, Danielle Sandoval, John DiGregorio, Brandon Pender, Howard Katchen):

Discussion on the issue. It was decided that the following persons would handle the following publicity:

Danielle Sandoval: Website

John DiGregorio: DONE Nextdoor account

John DiGregorio: Constant Contact

John DiGregorio: DONE newsletter, calendar, and website (via DONE General Manager and John Darnell)

Jay Handal: CityWatch (needs the information from someone)

Danielle Sandoval: Facebook and Twitter (agreed that the information should be timed for release on June 5).

Jon Liberman moved to approve a print ad in the L.A. Times. Garry Fordyce seconded. The ad would run for one day, at a quarter of a page, a week before the event. Pricing would run from \$3,780.00 on Wednesdays, on the low end, to \$5,623.00 on Thursdays, on the high end. Jon Liberman withdrew the motion. Garry accepted. MOTION WITHDRAWN.

Jay moved to approve running a radio ad. Jon Liberman seconded. Roll call vote, with 9 votes in favor, 6 votes opposed, and one abstention. MOTION PASSED. Carol Newman requested to see the ad copy after the meeting.

- b. Written protocol for the breakout sessions and elections (Carol Newman)

10. Bylaws committee – Second reading of Bylaws changes already distributed (Brian Allen and Carol Newman): Discussion on the issue. Danielle Sandoval moved that this is the First Reading of these bylaws and that on June 20<sup>th</sup>, at the next meeting, it will be the Second Reading. Garry Fordyce seconded. No abstentions, no objections. MOTION PASSED. Glenn Bailey moved that the issue be made #6 on the next meeting's agenda. Danielle did not accept the motion. Nobody seconded.

Carol Newman moved that first meeting of the new Budget Advocates take place on June 28, starting at 6:00 p.m. Jay Handal seconded. Discussion on the issue. Brian Allen suggested further change to the bylaws, saying, "the day of elections, or within two weeks after." Agreed that the first meeting of the new Budget Advocates will take place on Monday, June 29, at 6:00 p.m. The motion was withdrawn.

11. Outreach (Danielle Sandoval and Committee): See discussion above under Paragraph 9.

- a. Trifold
- b. Other matters

12. Updates from NC alliances, NC's, and BONC: Glenn Bailey announced that the BONC meeting would be at 6:00 p.m. tomorrow night. Barbara Ringuette volunteered to attend to deliver a report. Jennifer Goodie volunteered to be Barbara's backup.

13. New business:

-Update from the Finance Committee (Barbara Ringuette and Jack Humphreville):

Barbara and Jack attended the May 11 City Council Budget and Finance Committee meeting. The Budget Advocates were granted one speaker so Barbara spoke for both Jack and herself. The two speeches that Barbara delivered to the Committee are available on the City Watch web site.

The Council File for the budget now has 55 amendment motions. Jack sent out a list of budget motion amendments. The amendments included funding for pavement preservation, street sidewalks, street sweeping, wildlife and climate emergencies, and the Personnel Department among others.

The city adopted the Mayor's budget, but left itself the flexibility to change details as necessary, making it a Placeholder Budget. Jack expressed concern about the furloughs, (which would allow the City to save \$80 million), as well as the possible sale of long-term assets to pay off debt, such as 15,000 acres in Lawndale. He cited labor contracts as the main problem, which would increase to \$1,400,000,000 next year, and warned that the city will be using the virus to cover up past sins. It's unclear at this point how police overtime will affect the budget. The link to Barbara's presentation to the committee is on the NCBLA website.

14. Adjournment: at 9:35 p.m.

**Next and FINAL meeting – June 20, 2020**

**Deadline date for future agenda items to be submitted: June 16, 2020**