

Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates 2015/16 – Meeting #22

Neighborhood Empowerment Office, City Hall
200 North Spring Street, Suite 2005, Los Angeles, CA 90012 *
July 11, 2016 – 7 pm

*Call-in Telephone Number: 712-775-7031 ***

Access Code: 647-112-469

1. Call to order at 7:19 pm
2. Roll Call: Region 3 – Harvey, Region 4 – Brandon, Region 6 – Scott, Region 7 – Marcus, Barbara, Region 8 – Liz, Region 10 – Brett, Region 11 – Jon, Terry (quorum achieved at start of meeting). Joining later: Nelson-6, Danielle-12, Jeanette-4 (regrets Howard, Kjiel, Patrick, Joanne)
3. Public Comment - none
4. Approval of minutes of June 18th – moved by Jon, seconded by Barbara, passed unanimously.
5. Treasurer's report (Howard) – none, approval of Financial Report

Off topic discussion on the funding of the Budget Advocates by NCs: Terry to follow up on how much was given by NCs to Budget Advocates; Terry to draft a letter to Grayce to request a report back on why many NCs don't spend all their funds, what can be done to ameliorate the process on DONE's end, by the NCs, and how to ensure the City Clerk's office assumption of the responsibilities of NC financial matters helps resolve this issue.

6. Budget Day logistics and publicizing – Mike Fong to send Liz RSVPs – 25 so far, need to get info out, Terry to send e-mail to all board members, request it be posted on all NC websites, Joanne to create updated flyer, Liz has sign-in sheets from last year, will be pre-filled in for Budget Reps so only need to check info; Terry advised breakfast is set other than confirming numbers to caterer, Mike will handle parking from RSVPs, also contact LAPD Cadets for directing duties from first arrivals to close of the breakout sessions, DONE has booked Council Chambers and breakout session rooms on 10th floor (signage in closet at DONE), Terry has arranged for Channel 35 and will get DVD so can be posted to NCBALA website, decision was made not to record the break-out sessions, Mike to order Subway for new BAs' lunch (have some vegetarian), arrange (for Cadets?) to bring up drinks from downstairs, tablets and 2 screens from DONE, Mike to call Galperin staff about borrowing 4 more; Liz to contact Krystee about where the BA tablecloths and vertical banners are stored; will need BAs to volunteer to set up tables, put up signage Friday before, and help DONE staff (Mike to recruit) with registration.
7. Discussion and motion to approve Budget Day agenda; request to have the Co-Chairs do the welcome, expand time for tax speakers to 10 minutes by replacing Jay and Len, cutting introductions to 2 minutes, Grayce to 5, Terry and Liz to update and present to BAs at next meeting for approval; confirmation of ALL speakers – Miguel Santana being replaced by Jacob Wexler in the CAO's Finance and Revenue section; LA Metro's Chief Communications Officer Pauletta Tonilas, will speak in support of their tax proposition; Liz to follow up with Huizar's office on someone to speak for the Homeless bond; once that is set, will find someone to speak against with Jack Humphreville as fall-back.
8. Approval of agenda/plan for the break out meetings – with note for Budget Reps to check information, others to list name & contact info – moved by Jon as revised, seconded by Barbara, passed unanimously.

Off topic discussion on ways for the City to save money: how can individual departments to be more efficient and effective in collecting money owed, collect what is due (fines for illegally parking in handicapped zones); require City Attorney to pursue settlements instead of backing down.

9. Status training of BONC and BA facilitators on running of meeting/use of tablets – Mike to check how they interface for the training on the 18th, Terry will ensure they are set up in Room 1050; the 1 pm BONC meeting will probably run 3 hours +; BAs should be there at 4 pm understanding the training may not start until 4:30 or so.
10. Motion to approve new copy on what Budget Representatives and Budget Advocates do – Liz to send to all BAs for input to vote on next meeting.
11. Approval of agenda for the first meeting of the new Budget Advocates – delete DONE suite #, Moved by Barbara as revised, seconded by Jon, approved unanimously.

Off topic discussion: Mayor can't attend because he is in Rio negotiating for Olympics in 2024. Wants to meet with us when he gets back with his new budget team. Need to address how to frame his letter to the departments requesting budgets so they actually present performance-based budgets and draw on BA suggestions and White Paper. Terry to set meeting in August.

12. Motion to engage a professional note taker for initial BA meeting and moving forward – should have for first Budget Advocate meeting on Budget Day and for the Budget Advocate retreat. Would recommend the new Budget Advocates seriously consider making this permanent so the Secretary coordinates/tracks attendance but can also participate in the meeting. Needs to be someone who can handle multiple speakers, get names if those on conference call do not say and can turn around a condensed version within 2 days. Needs to understand the issues. NOT interested in a verbatim report of a recording. Need options for next meeting.
13. Status on how many NCs have appointed Budget Representatives and how to get the rest to do so. Liz to confirm when receives RSVPs but has received very few names. Terry to include a request for all Budget Representative names and contact info to be sent to Liz asap in the e-mail blast on signing up for Budget Day.
14. Tasks remaining to make Budget Day a success and the volunteers who will help out – need list of numbers and times for Friday set up, coordinating, handouts, registration, other? Joanne, Marcus, Juan, Kjiel have indicated interest.
15. Discussion on confirming a time and place for our July 23rd meeting (the Emergency Preparedness Alliance has a 10am meeting downtown the same day). Decision of those present to keep the meeting at 10 am in West LA.
16. Update on template Budget Advocate operations timeline now through 2017 – TABLED until next meeting pending discussion tentatively scheduled for 945 this Saturday between Scott and Liz.
17. Status website MOU with DONE on servicing/content control – Terry reported issues raised by the City Attorney's office have been resolved and we should have a draft by the end of the week.
18. Status NCBALA.com website hack and rebuild, status of mobile/app version – decision made to go with the version temporarily hosted by LANCC and let the new Budget Advocates decide on whether to put one of their number in charge or hire an outside webmaster to handle our needs.
19. Motion to engage a website facilitator to manage NCBALA.com – see #18 above.

20. What to do with CD meeting reports, when and how to present them – Danielle now has all the reports; they should be circulated to the CDs along with the White Paper. Terry suggested hand-delivery at City Hall and will coordinate distribution. Discussion on whether to revisit putting them on thumb-drives with extras for the new Budget Advocates but resolved to stay with paper and digital on-line versions.
21. Report on developing web-site metrics to track BA areas of concern as discussed at the meeting with the Mayor – new update circulated during the meeting. Terry advised that we stick to three points and introduce them at the conclusion of the August meeting with the Mayor. BAs to e-mail Scott and Harvey suggestions and further input.
22. Update on budget-related Council File identification, recommendations and sending though Budget Reps to NCs for CIS support – TABLED
23. New business/announcements – none
24. Adjournment at 9:14 pm

Next scheduled meeting will be on Saturday, July 23rd at 10 am at the West LA Municipal Building