

# Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates

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Los Angeles City Hall, DONE Office  
200 N. Spring Street 20<sup>th</sup> Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90012  
Monday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 7 PM

## Meeting #12 Minutes

Board Members	Roll Call	Region	Board Members	Roll Call	Region
Kevin Davis	Present (7:23)	1	Tony Michaelis	Present	7
John DiGregorio	Present	1	Barbara Ringuette	Present	7
Rick Ramirez	Present (7:30)	1	Connie Acosta	Present	7
Brian Allen	Excused	2	Liz Amsden	Present	8
Glenn Bailey	Present	2	Jamie Tijerina	Present	8
Diedra Greenaway	Absent	2	Jose Orozco Pelico	Absent	8
Jeffrey Mausner	Present	3	Chelsea McElwee	Present	9
Carol Newman	Present	3	Evelyn Valdez	Absent	9
Joanne Yvanek-Garb	Absent	3	VACANT	VACANT	9
Jeanette Hopp	Present	4	Carol Derby-David	Present	10
Howard Katchen	Present	4	Erick Morales	Present	10
Brandon Pender	Present	4	KJ Clark	Present (7:30)	10
Jack Humphreville	Absent	5	Jay Handal	Present (7:23)	11
VACANT	VACANT	5	Jacqueline Le Kennedy	Present (7:30)	11
Patrick Seamans	Present (7:50)	5	Jon Liberman	Present	11
James Hornik	Absent	6	Melanie Labrecque	Present	12
Adrienne Nicole Edwards	Absent	6	Danielle Sandoval	Present	12
Nina Smith	Present	6	Dr. Princess Sykes	Present	12

1. Call to Order: In physical absence of the Co-Chairs, Parliamentarian Carol Newman called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM as Acting Chair.
2. Roll Call: At the beginning of the meeting, a quorum of 20 Budget Advocates were present. 6 more Budget Advocates joined the meeting later, bringing the total to 26. John Darnell from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment and Garry Fordyce from North Hills West NC also joined the meeting.
3. Public Comment: No public comments were made
4. Approval of the Minutes from Meeting #11 (December 15, 2018): The minutes for December 15<sup>th</sup> were taken by a paid note taker but not submitted. Co-Chair Amsden will follow up.

### **MOTION TABLED.**

5. Treasurer's Report: A report of the current period's finances was provided to the NCBA's via email.

MOTION: Secretary Morales moved to approve the treasurer's report for the current period. Mr. Liberman seconded the motion.

SUPPORT: 13 votes

OPPOSE: 0 votes

ABSTAIN: 7 votes

**MOTION PASSED. REPORT APPROVED.**

6. Budget Advocates White Paper:

6.A.: DISCUSSION AND MOTION TO APPROVE THE WHITE PAPER REPORTS:

MOTION: Acting Chair Carol Newman moved to have the NCBAs vest in the Executive Committee the responsibility to finalize the White Paper reports after edits made at the request of the White Paper committee chair.

AMENDMENT: Mr. Bailey requested that all NCBAs be copied in the message containing corrected reports for the Executive Committee's review. This amendment was accepted.

SUPPORT: 22 votes

OPPOSE: 0 votes

ABSTAIN: 0 votes

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

6.B.: DISCUSSION AND DIRECTION ON FINALIZING WHITE PAPER:

The Executive Committee discussed the White Paper at their most recent meeting (1/4/2019) and decided to ask the Budget Advocates to choose whether to use Ms. Tijerina's working draft addressing red-lining or use suggestions from earlier Budget Advocate meetings in a format similar to previous White Papers. Ms. Tijerina distributed another draft of the red-lining White Paper to the NCBAs on Sunday (1/6/2019).

MOTION: Co-Chair Jay Handal moved to have the Executive Committee review and release Jamie Tijerina's paper as an NCBA position paper. Mr. Liberman seconded the motion.

SUPPORT: 23 votes

OPPOSE: 0 votes

ABSTAIN: 2 votes

**MOTION PASSED.**

MOTION: Acting Chair Carol Newman moved to have Liz Amsden draft the NCBA White Paper. The White Paper draft will be sent to the Executive Committee by Friday (1/11/2019) for comments to be received no later than Monday (1/14/2019) at 8 AM. A second draft will then be sent to all NCBAs by Tuesday (1/15/2019) and open until Friday (1/18/2019) noon for comment. Vice-Chair Ringuette seconded the motion.

AMENDMENT: Mr. Bailey requested that all NCBAs be copied in the message containing the first draft for the Executive Committee's review. This amendment was accepted.

SUPPORT: 25 votes

OPPOSE: 0 votes

ABSTAIN: 0 votes

**MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Acting Chair Newman asked for suggestions for the White Paper's title and theme. The NCBAs then votes on two suggestions: "City on the Brink" and "We Ain't Gonna Take It Anymore."

VOTES FOR TITLE:

"CITY ON THE BRINK": 6 votes

"WE AIN'T GONNA TAKE IT ANYMORE": 0 votes

NEITHER, FURTHER DISCUSSION: 18 votes

ABSTAIN: 1 vote

**NO TITLE APPROVED. DISCUSSION CONTINUED.**

MOTION: Co-Chair Jay Handal moved to title the White Paper “Why a City Manager? Is One Head Better Than Fifteen?” Vice-Chair Ringuette seconded.

SUPPORT: 14 votes

OPPOSE: 3 votes

ABSTAIN: 8 votes

**MOTION PASSED. TITLE APPROVED.**

Mr. Bailey suggested that a “word cloud” of the White Paper be included in the final draft.

Ms. Tijerina will see if a graphic designer will be able to put together the White Paper cover.

6.C.: STATUS PRESENTING THE WHITE PAPER TO THE MAYOR:

No date has been given by the Mayor’s office, according to Co-Chair Handal. The Mayor’s office earlier said a date in January would be given.

6.D.: PLACING AND PROMOTING THE WHITE PAPER THROUGH MEDIA OUTLETS:

Co-Chair Handal, Mr. Pender, and Ms. Sandoval volunteered to work on putting together a press conference. Co-Chair Handal will contact a media professional at a non-profit to get help on the process.

Ms. Acosta volunteered to write articles on the White Paper for Citywatch and the Silverlake Star; this offer was declined.

7. Soliciting/Expanding NC Support for White Paper: Co-Chair Handal stressed that the NCBAs need to visit NCs to distribute the White Paper and ask for support by writing community impact statements on CF 19-0600. Treasurer Katchen also asked that NCBAs ask for financial support from the NCs they visit. Mr. Bailey asked that the next agenda include an item about strategizing to visit NC alliances and coalitions to spread the word about the White Paper.

8. Updates:

8.A.: REPORT BACK ON DONE’S REFUSAL TO POST NCBA SURVEY:

No update. Co-Chair Handal volunteered to write a statement concerning General Manager Liu’s refusal to post the survey. Co-Chair Amsden will review the statement. The statement will be sent to the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, the Budget and Finance Committee (Councilmember Paul Krekorian), and the Health, Education, and Neighborhood Councils Committee (Councilmember David Ryu).

8.B.: SURVEY RESULTS:

Vice-Chair DiGregorio will disseminate the survey results to the NCBAs for discussion at the next meeting.

8.C.: BUDGET ADVOCATE TOWN HALLS:

All regions that have not sent a location for their town hall must email Vice-Chair DiGregorio a location before Friday. Failure to do so will result in Vice-Chair DiGregorio picking a location for the region.

8.D.: CITYWATCH ARTICLES:

NCBAs are encouraged to use the content of their white paper reports to write editorials for CityWatch. NCBAs should send these editorials to the Co-Chairs.

9. Housekeeping: Any NCBA needing their business cards should contact Co-Chair Handal. Acting Chair Newman requested names to fill the BA vacancies in Regions 5 and 9.

10. New Business: Mr. Bailey noted that Executive Committee meetings were being held without notice to the NCBA membership. Acting Chair Newman stated that the Executive Committee meetings are held on the first Saturday of the month at 10 AM. February's Executive Committee meeting is cancelled.

11. Adjournment: Acting Chair Newman adjourned the meeting at 9:16 PM.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:  
ERICK M. MORALES  
2018 - 2019 NCBA Secretary