

Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates

www.BudgetAdvocates.org

Zoom Meeting
July 9, 2022, 4:00 p.m.
Meeting #1 Minutes



Board Members	Roll Call	Region	Board Members	Roll Call	Region
Kevin Davis	Absent	1	Barbara Ringuette	Present till 6:00	7
Cindy Cleghorn	Present	1	David Hunter	Absent	7
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Brian Allen	Present	2	Lynda Valencia	Absent	8
Garry Fordyce	Present	2	Samantha McBride	Present	8
Scott Wright	Present	2	-----	-----	8
Glenn Bailey	Present	3	Elias Garcia	Present	9
David Uebersax	Present	3	-----	-----	9
-----	-----	3	-----	-----	9
Howard Katchen	Present 4:31	4	Jennifer Goodie	Present	10
Brandon Pender	Present	4	-----	-----	10
Myrra Bolla	Present	4	-----	-----	10
Jack Humphreville	Excused	5	Jay Handal	Present 4:31	11
-----	-----	5	Kay Hartman	Present 4:09	11
-----	-----	5	Adriana de la Cruz	Present	11
Ernesto Castro	Absent	6	Sheryl Akerblom	Present	12
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- I. Welcome and Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Jennifer Goodie at 4:05pm, with a quorum.
- II. Roll Call: See above.

Also in attendance were: Former Budget Advocates Liz Amsden (Historic Highland Park NC) and Ronnie Reece (Rampart Village NC); and Budget Representatives Tess Taylor (Greater Toluca Lake NC), Mihran Kalaydjian (Woodland Hills Warner Center NC) and Sharon Brewer (Reseda NC).

- III. Minutes:

Garry moved to approve the minutes from Meeting #21 on June 6, 2022. Jennifer seconded.

MOTION PASSED, with 13 for, no opposed and 1 abstention

IV. Public Comment: Adriana thanked Budget Advocates for this opportunity.

V. Introductions: Budget Advocates introduced themselves, by region:

Region 1:

-Kevin Davis: (Not in attendance.) Kevin has served as a Budget Advocate and as President of the Foothill Trails District NC for number of years.

-Cindy Cleghorn: Cindy is a board member and past Chair of Sunland Tujunga NC.

Region 2:

-Brian Allen: Brian has been a Budget Advocate for seven years and has been a long-standing Treasurer of Granada Hills NC. He is retired, after working as a CFO for 40 years.

-Garry Fordyce: Garry represents North Hills West NC. He attended every meeting as a Budget Representative, before becoming a Budget Advocate himself. He has now held this position for a couple terms.

-Scott Wright: Scott represents Northridge South NC as a new Budget Representative and is relatively new to the Neighborhood Council system. He has a business background and is a professional musician.

Region 3:

-Glenn Bailey: Glenn is representing Region 3 this term. He started by representing Encino NC in Region 3, then represented Northridge East NC in Region 2 over a couple terms. He serves on the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition, Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils and the Congress Planning Committee.

-David Uebersax: David has been President of Winnetka NC for eight years and previously served on the Griffith Park NC (Los Feliz). He is currently the Vice Chair of LANCC. David has a background in Business Administration and Information Technology and has worked most recently in the financial industry, making financial systems work (currently with Union Bank). David is also a professional musician.

Region 4:

-Howard Katchen: Not yet in attendance.

-Brandon Pender: Brandon has been involved with the Neighborhood Council system since 2010, serving as a Budget Representative for Greater Toluca Lake NC and Studio City NC. He has served as a Budget Advocate since early 2012, minus one term. Brandon is a former law enforcement official (State and Federal Government) and now works in the motion picture industry. He has degrees in business and law and his strengths are: writing editing, marketing, advertising, public relations, and creating audio and video content. Through his time as a Budget Advocate, Brandon has made contacts through the city government.

-Myrra Bolla: Myrra has a degree in Business Administration and has worked in non-profit and for-profit environments, her last job being in a financial office. She has good skills in planning, organization and coordinating events, as well as in Quickbooks and all Microsoft Office programs. She is also a Notary Public.

Region 5:

-Jack Humphreville: Not in attendance.

Region 6:

-Ernesto Castro: Not in attendance.

Region 7:

-Barbara Ringuette: Barbara served on the board of Silverlake NC for nine years, until terming out last year. She continues to serve on the council's Urban Design Committee as well as other committees. Barbara has served as Chair of Development for Budget Advocates over the last 4-5 years. She retired from heading an office in a county department and has strong organizational and managerial skills. Barbara loves to garden.

-David Hunter: Not in attendance.

Region 8:

-Lynda Valencia: Not in attendance.

-Samantha McBride: Samantha is going into her second term as Treasurer of Historic Highland Park NC. Samantha is good at updating rosters, taking notes and double- and triple-checking things, including e-mails. Samantha also loves to cook.

Region 9:

-Elias Garia: Elias is Treasurer for the Central Lomita NC in Council District 9. He has been a Budget Advocate for over three years and likes to play sports.

Region 10:

-Jennifer Goodie: Jennifer represents Mid-City NC and has lived in Southern CA all her life. She has a technical background with experience in technical management and technical development, for app and web development. Jennifer enjoys knitting and sometimes likes to cook. This is her third year as a Budget Advocate.

Region 11:

-Jay Handal: Not yet in attendance.

-Kay Hartman: Kay represents Palms NC and is good at organization, writing, and editing. She also likes to cook, travel and knit.

-Adriana de la Cruz: Adriana has been a stakeholder in the Los Angeles area for more than 30 years. She attended many meetings as a stakeholder and stepped up upon seeing her area continually underrepresented. Adriana has been an advisor for the Bureau of Street Services. She has a labor background, a paralegal certificate and experience in doing contracts and negotiations within the Motion Picture Industry. Adriana appreciates the ability of Budget Advocates to serve the community by making budget recommendations and she has enjoyed participating in developing the White Paper.

Region 12:

-Sheryl Akerblom: Sheryl is Treasurer of Coastal San Pedro NC. She is a bookkeeper and has lived in Southern California her whole life.

VI. Discussion and possible action regarding reimbursement of \$261.49 to Jennifer Goodie for Zoom licenses for Budget Day:

A. 10 licenses at \$19.99 each, extra storage at \$40, plus sales tax (receipt attached)

1. We had to purchase 10 licenses because we needed features from the Standard Biz plan and there is a 10-license minimum for that plan.

Glenn moved to reimburse Jennifer for this expense. Brian seconded.
MOTION PASSED, with 16 for and 1 abstention.

VII. Election of NCBA officers for 2022-2023 term

A. Co-Chairs:

1. The Co-Chairs shall jointly have and equally share such powers of supervision and management as customarily pertain to the office; shall preside at all meetings of the organization and the Board or designate

another person to do so; shall be, ex officio, a member of all committees; and shall perform such other duties as the Board may direct.

Kay nominated Jennifer as Co-Chair.
Jennifer accepted the nomination.

Brandon nominated Jay as Co-Chair.
Jay accepted the nomination.

Adriana nominated Glenn as Co-Chair.
Glenn declined the nomination.

Jennifer nominated Kay as Co-Chair.
Kay accepted the nomination.

Myrra nominated Howard as Co-Chair.
Howard declined the nomination.

Myrra nominated Barbara as Co-Chair.
Barbara declined the nomination.

Vote on:
Jennifer
Jay
Kay

At Adriana's request, Jennifer deferred to Glenn in running the Co-Chair election.
Each candidate was invited to provide a two-minute statement.

Brian moved that Budget Advocates be allowed to make a one-minute statement, if desired. Garry seconded.
MOTION PASSED, with 12 for, 1 opposed and 3 abstentions.

Budget Advocates who desired provided a statement regarding the election.

16 Budget Advocates were in attendance, resulting in a majority of 9.

VOTE results total (including Zoom poll results and votes delivered through electronic chat):

Jenifer 14/17

Jay: 5/17

Kay 12/17

Jennifer and Kay were approved as Budget Advocate Co-Chairs.
They also gave approval for proceeding with the vote.

B. Vice Chair of Development:

1. The Vice Chair of Development shall be responsible for developing a training regimen for Budget Advocates, enforcing training requirements, overseeing trainings, mentoring Budget Advocates, relaying or responding to requests, and handling meetings and events and other logistics in the absence of, or as requested by, the Co-Chairs.

Jenifer nominated Jack as Vice Chair of Development
Jack had previously agreed via email to accept the nomination.

Brandon nominated Barbara as Vice Chair of Development.
Barbara accepted the nomination.

Cindy nominated Kevin as Vice Chair of Development.
Kevin was not in attendance and was unable to accept or decline.

Adriana nominated Jay as Vice Chair of Development.
Jay declined the nomination

Each candidate was invited to deliver a statement.

16 Budget Advocates were in attendance, resulting in a majority of 9.

VOTE results total (including Zoom poll results and votes delivered through chat):

Jack: 7/16

Barbara 9/16

Jay re-entered the meeting, from a failed connection.

RE-VOTE results total (including Zoom poll results and votes delivered through chat):

Jack:3/11

Barbara: 8/11

SECOND RE-VOTE, with a Roll Call vote of 16 members:

Jack: 5

Barbara: 10

Abstention: 1

Barbara was approved as the Vice Chair of Development.

C. Vice Chair of Outreach/ Communications:

1. The Vice Chair of Outreach/Communication shall oversee all social media, work with the Co-Chairs on outreach to media and stakeholders for events and press releases, supervise the website, checks that all links work and that all posts are up to date, oversee the newsletter committee, ensure that materials go out on a timely basis, and that agendas, draft/final minutes, Budget Advocate attendance records, and financial records are posted as soon as available

Jennifer nominated Jay as Vice Chair of Communications.
Jay declined the nomination.

Adriana nominated Samantha as Vice Chair of Communications.
Samantha accepted the nomination.

VOTE:

Samantha was APPROVED BY ACCLAMATION as Vice Chair of Communications, with 15 for and no abstentions.

D. Treasurer:

1. The Treasurer is charged with overseeing, managing, and reporting to the Board the financial position of funds contributed by Neighborhood Councils to the Budget Advocates and funds from the Department for the Budget Advocates. The Treasurer (a) ensures accurate and complete financial reporting (i.e., expended funds, available funds and committed funds not yet expended) to the Board at and provides a financial report to the Board in advance of the meeting; (b) creates and manages a fiscal year budget which is approved by the Board; (c) executes all Board approved expenditures; (d) acts as designated signatory for Board financial matters and related documents; (e) maintains all financial documents and information, including but not limited to bank card statements, invoices, receipts, and Board vote totals; (f) investigates and resolves any financial and operational matters, and keeps the Board apprised of actions taken and their resolution; (g) tracks and confirms funds contributed by Neighborhood Councils to the Budget Advocates; and (h) coordinates acknowledging and thanking Neighborhood Councils which contribute funds.

Jennifer nominated Brian as Treasurer.

Brian accepted the nomination.

Brian declined to provide a candidate statement.

No objections were raised to approving Brian by Acclamation.

VOTE:

Brian was APPROVED BY ACCLAMATION as Treasurer, with 15 for and no abstentions.

E. Parliamentarian:

1. The Parliamentarian shall assist NCBA in the drafting and interpretation of bylaws and rules of order, run ad-hoc committees as needed to address bylaw changes, handle the procedural aspects of grievances, prepare and review bylaw updates, assist as needed with the planning and conduct of meetings, and work with the Co-Chairs on conduct and ethics issues as needed.

Jennifer nominated Glenn as Parliamentarian.

Glenn accepted the nomination.

Glenn delivered a candidate statement.

No objections were raised to approving Glenn by Acclamation.

VOTE:

Glenn was APPROVED BY ACCLAMATION as Treasurer, with 15 for and no abstentions.

F. Administrative Secretary:

1. The Administrative Secretary shall be responsible for establishing and maintaining on an ongoing basis the NCBA and Budget Representative contact rosters (and email lists) and will make sure such information is current and accurate. They will also maintain current information as to attendance at BA meetings and will be responsible for disseminating information required for effective preparation for Department and other meetings of the BAs. They will work with the Vice Chair of Outreach/Communication to make sure that current and accurate information is being posted to the website, and will monitor Budget Advocates' compliance with ethics, funding, and Code of Conduct requirements. They will also perform the duties of the Secretary in the absence of the Secretary.

Glenn nominated Adriana as Administrative Secretary.

Adriana accepted the nomination.

Jennifer nominated Cindy as Administrative Secretary.
Cindy declined the nomination.

Adriana delivered a candidate statement.
No objections were raised to approving Adriana by Acclamation.

VOTE:
Adriana was APPROVED BY ACCLAMATION, with 15 for and no abstentions.

G. Corresponding (Recording) Secretary:

1. The Corresponding Secretary shall ensure that minutes of Board actions and meetings are taken, or take them, and then review them for accuracy, distribute them to all Budget Advocates within three (3) calendar days of receipt of the draft minutes from the note-taker, send the draft minutes to the web host to post on the website and once they are approved at the following meeting, send the final approved minutes with any changes to the web host to post, and distribute digital and all other documents to the BAs as requested. The Secretary will also assist the Co-Chairs with meeting notices as needed, and perform such duties as customarily pertaining to the office.

Glenn nominated Cindy as Corresponding Secretary.
Cindy declined the nomination.

Jennifer nominated David Uebersax as Corresponding Secretary.
David declined the nomination.

Adriana nominated Jay as Corresponding Secretary
Jay declined the nomination.

Jennifer moved to table the vote on this position to the next meeting.
Glenn seconded.
MOTION PASSED BY ACCLAMATION, with 15 for and no abstentions.

Kay moved to discuss item 8, then the table the rest of the agenda for the next meeting. Adriana seconded.
MOTION PASSED, with 10 for, 5 opposed and no abstentions.

VIII. Discussion and possible action regarding meeting schedule for 2022-2024 term

A. Currently we meet the 1st Monday of each month at 7:00pm and the 3rd Saturday of each month at 9:30 am.

Jennifer moved to keep the current meeting schedule. Garry seconded.
MOTION PASSED, with 14 for, 1 opposed and no abstentions.

The next meeting will be held on Saturday, July 16, at 9:30am, at the same Zoom link.

IX. Council File [11-1020-S3](#): Item tabled to next meeting.

1. Discussion and possible action regarding drafting a response to DONE's statement and sending to NCs
2. Discussion and possible action regarding the NC Budget Advocates filing an ethics complaint against Raquel Beltran

a) Purpose of the City of Los Angeles Governmental Ethics Ordinance

(1) To assure that individuals and interest groups in our society have a fair and equal opportunity to participate in the governmental process.

b) Los Angeles Municipal Code Article 9.5 Section 49.5.5.A

(1) City officials, agency employees, appointees awaiting confirmation by the City Council, and candidates for elected City office shall not misuse or attempt to misuse their positions or prospective positions to create or attempt to create a private advantage or disadvantage, financial or otherwise, for any person.

3. Update on CIS for NCs to submit regarding contributing funds to the NC Budget Advocates: Item tabled to next meeting.

X. Retreat: Item tabled to next meeting.
A. When?

XI. Committee Reports: Item tabled to next meeting.

A. Finance Committee:

1. FY 2021-2022 End of Year Financial Report pending

XII. Upcoming Meetings and Events:

- A. BONC Monday, July 18th, 1:00pm
- B. BONC Monday, August 15th, 1:00pm
- C. Congress of Neighborhoods Saturday, September 24, 2022

XIII. Items for Future Meeting Agendas: None.

XIV. Adjournment: Kay adjourned the meeting at 6:35pm.

Next Meeting #2 is June 6th, 2022 at 7:00 pm

Minutes of Budget Advocate meeting #1 (July 9)