



Grievance Determination

Grievant's Name: Connie Acosta

Neighborhood Council: Historic Highland Park Neighborhood Council

Grievance Number: 249

Complainant Alleges Violation of the Following: Neighborhood Council Bylaw; Article III Membership, Section 3: Voting Procedures: P.6, PP2 / Standing Rule

Date Received: July 26, 2020

Date of Department Review: July 28, 2020

GRIEVANCE-PROCESS:

The Department reviews all Grievances to determine whether the Grievance conforms to the Grievance Policy. Upon a determination that a Grievance conforms to the Policy, the Department certifies the Grievance and notifies the affected Neighborhood Council that the Grievance may proceed through the Grievance process established herein. The certification of a Grievance by the Department shall not be construed as a statement regarding the validity or invalidity of the Grievance. If a determination is made that the grievance has merit, a notification is sent to the Neighborhood Council in question describing the suggested remedy.

Dear, Ms. Acosta:

Thank you for contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) via the [Grievance Portal](#) relative to your grievance against the Budget Advocates on July 26, 2020. The Neighborhood Council Grievance process is, in general, authorized to address alleged violations of the Neighborhood Council's rules, Los Angeles City ordinances regarding the Neighborhood Council system, Neighborhood Council funding rules from the City Clerk, or policies of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment or Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC). The jurisdiction of complaints that are reviewed under the Neighborhood Council Grievance process is limited in scope. For example, the Neighborhood Council Grievance process is prohibited from addressing allegations against individual board members or addressing violations of State or Federal law.

Your grievance alleges:

1. (A), "According to the NCBA Bylaws of June 2020: Any Budget Advocate who is removed as a Budget Advocate may nevertheless still continue as a Budget Representative, unless removed from that position as well by his or her Neighborhood Council or unless he or she no longer qualifies as a Budget Representative under the bylaws of his or her Neighborhood Council"

RESPONSE: The allegation above is considered to be outside of the jurisdiction of the grievance process. The Neighborhood Council Grievance process is prohibited from addressing violations of State law, or violations that do not involve a certify Neighborhood Council. While the jurisdiction of your complaint under the Neighborhood Council Grievance process is limited in scope, your concerns will be forwarded to the Neighborhood Empowerment who works with the Budget Advocates so that the matter can be addressed with the Chair and the Budget Advocates.

After carefully reviewing your grievance, the Department found that the allegations in your grievance are matters pertaining to issues outside of the jurisdiction of the Grievance process and therefore are prohibited from being addressed through the Neighborhood Council Grievance process. Accordingly, this grievance is closed.

Thank you for bringing this issue to the Department's attention. I hope the Department's description of the Neighborhood Council's Grievance process of the rules provides clarification of the circumstances in question.

Respectfully,