

Grievance #368

Department of Neighborhood Empowerment Grievance Form

Thank you for contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment regarding your Grievance. Your concerns are important to us. Please fill out this form as completely as possible to help expedite our determination. Please be aware that the information you are submitting is subject to the California Public Records Act.

We will NOT be able to respond to your Grievance unless you provide a valid email or mailing address. Please note that once you click Save at the upper right corner, your Grievance will be submitted.

All witness statements must be attached on this form.

The Department will not process more than three Grievance Forms filed by the same person in any calendar year and no more than five Grievance Forms filed by the same individual in any three year period. All Grievances submitted through this portal are considered processed.

First Name **Last Name** **Please identify your role within the Neighborhood Council system:**
Louis Caravella Board Member

Phone Number **Email Address**
[REDACTED] [REDACTED]@gmail.com

Mailing Address
[REDACTED]

Neighborhood Council **Neighborhood Council Bylaws**
Central San Pedro

Specific Violation Alleged

Failure to indicate the nature of your alleged Grievance will result in the dismissal of your Grievance.

- | | | |
|--|-----------------------|----------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood Council Bylaw | Article Number | Section |
| | 7 | 3 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Los Angeles Administrative Code | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plan for the Citywide System of Neighborhood Councils | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Board of Neighborhood Commissioners Policy | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Department Policy | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> * - Any other City code, executive directive, rule or regulation applicable to Neighborhood Councils. | | |

Date of Alleged Violation
05-17-22

A Grievance must be filed within 30 days from the date of the event giving rise to the Grievance. Any Grievance alleging a violation relating to Neighborhood Council funding must be filed within 90 calendar days of the date the expenditure is made.

Please specify the exact rule and explain the facts of the alleged violation.

The action taken by the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council (CeSPNC) in re. item 15c at its May 17, 2022 Board & Stakeholder meeting violates the Bylaws and Standing Rules of the Central San Pedro Neighborhood Council. I refer specifically to Bylaws Article 7, Section 3 and Standing Rule Article 9, Section 3. Additionally, I cite our Bylaws' Code of Civility and the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment's Code of Conduct.

The motion as agendized was "Request board appoint new Chair of Homeless Committee."

CeSPNC's Bylaws Article 7, Section 3 states:

Section 3. Committees Creation and Authorization
Committees shall be established by standing rules adopted by the Council. The rules shall state the committee names, purpose, jurisdiction, composition, and method for selecting members and chairpersons.

CeSPNC's Standing Rule Article 9, Section 3 states:

Section 3: Committee Creation and Authorization

Committee chairs shall be selected by the committee unless otherwise prescribed in these Bylaws and/or Standing Rules.

The unless clause refers to the Outreach & Communications Officer, who is de facto Chair of the Outreach and Communications Committee.

This agenda item should not have been agendized at all. As amended, it became worse and more of a personal attack. The motion, as amended by Board member James Allen, was: "Motion to remove Homeless Committee Chair." The second was Matt Garland. The meeting began at 6:30pm and has a mandatory stop time at or before 9:30pm. Mr. Garland arrived at the meeting at 9:12 pm. His only motion at the meeting was to second Mr. Allen's motion against the Homelessness Committee Chair, and his only vote at the meeting was to affirm the same. The motion carried by a vote of 10-5.

To my knowledge, there are no proposed agenda items for the Homelessness Committee. There are no requested items from stakeholders or from Board members, including Mr. Allen and Mr. Garland. Therefore, this motion was unnecessary as there are no pending agenda items for the Committee and no reason for the Committee to meet. In addition, according to the Standing Rules, committees appoint chairs. So, this item was further unnecessary as the Homelessness Committee would have to vote for a new chair if it wanted one, regardless of Board action.

Since the motion served no procedural or practical purpose, it effectively was a personal attack, which runs afoul of the both the Department's Code of Conduct and the Bylaws' Code of Civility.

I understand that the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment concurs with this grievance and may send correspondence to the Council regarding it. I appreciate that and, after consulting stakeholders, I determined it necessary to make an official grievance filing as well.

Please see attached draft minutes. Our Bylaws and Standing Rules are available online here:

<https://centralsanpedronc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/1.-CeSPNC-Bylaws-BONC-Approved-06-29-2020-17a-1.pdf>

<https://centralsanpedronc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/CeSPNC-Standing-Rules-as-approved-9-15-20.pdf>

Remedy

There are various remedies available. Please select from the list below the remedy OR remedies you are seeking.

Please be advised that the Department has sole discretion in determining whether your remedy conforms with your Grievance.

From the list below, which remedy or remedies are you seeking?

1) Warning to the Neighborhood Council board, individual board member, or, members.

2) Required corrective action of the Neighborhood Council.

3) Mandated training for the Neighborhood Council, individual board member, or, members.

4) Required mediation for the Neighborhood Council board, individual board member, or, members.

5) Suspension of Neighborhood Council board until mandated trainings are taken by board, board member, or, members.

6) Temporary suspension of Neighborhood Council Funding.

7) Placement of the Neighborhood Council board under control and supervision of the Department.

8) Suspension of individual board member or members.

9) Initiation of de-certification process or process to declare board seats vacant.

Please state why you are seeking the above mentioned remedy or remedies.

It's important that the Board follows the Bylaws and Standing Rules, so training is important.

Witness Information

ALL of your Witness information and Witness Statement needs to be included at this time. The Department will ONLY accept and review Witness information included at time of submission.
You can find the Witness Statement form [here](#).

Witness 1 Contact Information

First Name

Last Name

Email Address

Phone Number

Witness Statement

Witness 2 Contact Information

First Name

Last Name

Email Address

Phone Number

Witness Statement

Witness 3 Contact Information

First Name

Last Name

Email Address

Phone Number

Witness Statement

If no witness, please check this box

Supporting Documents

Before submitting, please include ALL supporting documentation HERE. The Department will ONLY process and review materials included at time of submission.

Supporting Document

Supporting Document

Supporting Document

Supporting Document

CeSPNC_GBM_051722_Draft MinutesI_Final.docx.pdf

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

By checking this box and typing my name below, I am electronically signing this form.

Louis P. Caravella

To SUBMIT, please click "Save" on top right corner.

Status	Staff	Initial Status	Notes	NC Determination	Panel Determination	Date Closed
Approved		PC (Follow Up)				

asd
No response forms found