

I, Rick Young am filing this formal grievance in accordance with DLANC bylaw ARTICLE XI GRIEVANCE PROCESS.

The Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council (DLANC) is in violation of the Brown Act by committing the following act during a Board meeting.

SECRET BALLOT/ANONYMOUS VOTING.

The violation can be found under the following brown act.

MEETING:

No secret ballots/anonymous voting by board or committee.

On January 14th 2014 during a Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council (DLANC) meeting VP of Administration Russell Brown asked the Board of Directors to write the name of the Board Candidate they were voting for on a piece of paper after which VP of Administration Russell Brown collected the ballots from the board members and counted them to determine the winner.

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*Rick Young 1-28-14*

**Section 4: Method of Verifying Stakeholder Status** – Voters will verify their Stakeholder status by providing acceptable documentation.

**Section 5: Restrictions on Candidates Running for Multiple Seats** – A candidate shall declare their candidacy for no more than one (1) position on DLANC Board during a single election cycle.



**Section 6: Other Election Related Language** – Any additional language shall be put forth in the Standing Rules.

#### **ARTICLE XI GRIEVANCE PROCESS**

- A. Any grievance by a Stakeholder must be submitted in writing to the Board who shall cause the matter to be placed on the agenda for the next regular DLANC meeting.
- B. At that meeting, the Board shall refer the matter to an Ad Hoc Grievance Panel comprised of three (3) Stakeholders randomly selected by the Board from a list of Stakeholders who have expressed an interest in serving from time-to-time on such a panel.
- C. Within two (2) weeks of the panel's selection, the Board shall coordinate a time and place for the panel to meet with the person(s) submitting a grievance to discuss ways in which the dispute may be resolved.
- D. Within two (2) weeks following such meeting, a member of the panel shall prepare a written report to be forwarded by the Secretary to the Board outlining the panel's collective recommendations for resolving the grievance. The Board may receive a copy of the panel's report and recommendations prior to a Board meeting, but, in accordance with the Brown Act, the matter shall not be discussed among the Directors until it is heard publicly at the next regular DLANC meeting.
- E. This grievance process is intended to address matters involving procedural disputes, such as the Board's failure to comply with Board Rules or these Bylaws. It is not intended to apply to Stakeholders who merely disagree with a position or action taken by the Board at one of its meetings, which grievances may be aired publicly at DLANC meetings.
- F. Directors are not permitted to file a grievance against another Director or against DLANC.
- G. In the event that a grievance cannot be resolved through this process, then the matter shall be referred to the Department for consideration or dispute resolution in accordance with the Plan.

#### **ARTICLE XII PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY**

DLANC shall use the Robert's Rules of Order when conducting DLANC meetings. Additional rules and/or policies and procedures regarding the conduct of the Board and/or DLANC meetings may be developed and adopted by the Board and set forth in the DLANC Standing Rules.

 <p><b>DLANC</b> Downtown Los Angeles Neighborhood Council</p> <hr/> <p><a href="http://www.dlanc.com">www.dlanc.com</a> P.O. Box# 13096 Los Angeles, CA 90013-0096</p>	 <p><a href="http://lacity.org">lacity.org</a></p>	<p><b>Patti Berman, President</b> <b>Russell Brown, VP Administration</b> <b>Anastasia Johnson, VP Outreach &amp; Communication</b> <b>Scott Bytof, Treasurer</b> <b>Tina Pellegrino, Secretary</b></p>
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**DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
**MONTHLY BOARD MEETING**

The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Board on any item of the agenda prior to the Board taking action on an item. Comments from the public on Agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the Agenda that is within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public forum is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless waived by the presiding officer of the Board. The chair may take items out of order. As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend, by calling 530-378-9096. In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the Board in advance of a meeting, may be viewed at [www.dlanc.com](http://www.dlanc.com) or at the scheduled meeting.

Discussion and Possible Action for all items on which the board feels it might take action.

Tuesday, January 14, 2014, 6:30 P.M.  
Palace Theatre 615 S. Broadway

1. Call to Order and request to turn off phones.
2. Explanation of public comment card.
3. Roll Call
4. MOTION: To approve the minutes from December 2013.
5. Reports and presentations from City or Elected Officials and representatives
6. Public comment on Non-Agenda Items within the board's subject matter. Speakers must fill out a public comment card. Public comments are limited to two minutes per speaker with a total time of ten minutes.
7. MOTION: To approve Sarah Willcox as alternate for Geza Gedeon
8. Selection of director for Homeless seat. Candidates are: Tom Grode, Eric Dean, John Heimark
9. Swearing in of new alternate and director.
10. President's Report
11. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:
  - 11.1. MOTION: To approve a letter of support for Los Angeles' application for the Green Lane Project. Presentation by Nathan Baird from the Mayor's office.

# The Brown Act and Neighborhood Councils

## -Quick Hits-

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**Meeting.** Any congregation of a majority of members (or the number that constitutes a quorum), to hear, discuss, or deliberate upon any matter within the NC's jurisdiction.

- ▶ Must be open to the public.
- ▶ Must be conducted at an ADA accessible facility
- ▶ Agendas of regular meetings must be posted (and allowed to be viewed) 72 hours in advance/special meeting agendas must be posted 24 hours and delivered to board members; Agendas must include mandatory ADA language
- ▶ NC board members may only discuss items that are listed on the agenda.

**Exceptions:** May discuss and direct that future items be put on the agenda; May *briefly* discuss own activities or *briefly* respond to comments made or questions asked during general public comment portion of meeting.

- ▶ No secret ballots/anonymous voting by board or committee.
- ▶ No closed meetings or "executive sessions." **Limited exceptions:** a) pending litigation against the NC or; b) personnel exception only involving city employee.<sup>1</sup>
- ▶ **What isn't a meeting.** Individual contacts or conversations with a board member/a majority attending; purely social or ceremonial events; other public meetings, conferences advertised to the public.<sup>2</sup>
- ▶ **No serial meetings.** A series of separate communications (usually non-public), each of which involves less than a majority of the legislative body, but which taken as a whole, ultimately involves a majority (or the least number of board/committee members that can take action) of that legislative body. **Rule:** May not use direct communication, personal intermediaries, or technological devices (phone, fax, e-mail) by a majority to develop a collective concurrence as to action to be taken.

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<sup>1</sup> These exceptions shall not be invoked before conferring with the Office of the City Attorney.

<sup>2</sup> A majority of members at public events may not discuss among themselves business of a specific matter under the NC's jurisdiction.