

**MINUTES OF THE  
CHINATOWN HISTORIC AREA PLANNING COMMITTEE**

**March 8, 2018**

A meeting of the Chinatown Historic Area Planning Committee (CHAPC) was held on Thursday, March 8, 2018, in the Boardroom of the Chinese Cultural Centre, 50 East Pender Street, Vancouver, BC.

**PRESENT:** Helen Lee, Planning Institute of BC, Chair  
John Atkin, Dr. Sun Yat-Sen Garden Society  
Edmund Ma, Chinatown Property Owner  
(departed 7:18 p.m.)  
Inge Roecker, Heritage Vancouver  
Mark Shieh, Chinatown Property Owner  
May So, Member at Large

**ABSENT:** Marianne Amodio, Architectural Institute of BC  
(Vincent) Pui Lam Ho, Chinatown Merchants Association  
Joseph Lau, SUCCESS  
Raymond Tam, Chinese Benevolent Association  
Councillor Kerry Jang  
Commissioner Erin Shum, Parks Board  
Trustee Allan Wong, Vancouver School Board

**ALSO PRESENT:** Paul Cheng, Senior Development Planner, COV (Item 2)  
Zlatan Jankovic, Heritage Planner, COV  
Bonnie Ma, Planning Assistant, COV (Item 2)  
Helen Ma, DTES Planner (Item 2)  
Tom Wanklin, Senior DTES Planner, COV (Item 2)

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Rae Ratslef, Raincoast Ventures Ltd.

With a quorum present, Chair Lee called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m.

**1) Adoption of Agenda and Minutes**

MOVED by Mark Sheih  
AND SECONDED by John Atkin  
That the Agenda for the Chinatown Historic Area Planning Committee meeting  
scheduled March 8, 2018 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

MOVED by Inge Roecker  
AND SECONDED by Edmund Ma  
That the minutes of the Chinatown Historic Area Planning Committee meeting held  
February 8, 2018 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

## **2) Chinatown Planning and Development Policies Report Update**

Helen Ma, DTES Planner, COV, reviewed a presentation titled “Chinatown Planning Update and Change to Development Policies”, providing an update on planning work in Chinatown, including proposed changes to development policies, short-term activation projects in Chinatown, and other on-going planning work in preparation for UNESCO World Heritage Site designation.

Paul Cheng, Senior Development Planner, COV, commented on prior planning policy to encourage development in Chinatown and staff’s recommendations for changes to the policy relative to FSR and additional height.

Members were referred to on-table documents titled “Chinatown Development Policy Changes - progress update from staff to community, updated March 2018”; and “Proposed Changes to Chinatown development policies - technical summary table, updated March 2018”.

Staff responded to questions. Discussion ensued on: interest in regulating retail uses and office use at ground floor; support for narrow buildings; potential need for amendments to the Building Code to address small lot development and retail on the laneway; support for the Design Guidelines to encourage innovative ways of using space; and preference for the public hearing to be scheduled outside of summer months.

## **3) CHAPC - Terms of Reference**

Chair Lee discussed the subcommittee’s review of the CHAPC Terms of Reference (TOR), and discussed meeting with COV’s Director of Planning, staff, and past CHAPC members.

Discussion ensued on: CHAPC’s creation; past role to oversee the landscape of Chinatown; whether to restrict CHAPC’s area of influence to the administrative boundaries; increasing awareness of Chinatown’s living and intangible heritage; CHAPC’s role in relation to other bodies, e.g. Urban Design Panel; challenges with CHAPC’s membership composition; importance of context in considering applications; potential new governance role of CHAPC; community outreach on the Chinatown Management Plan; potential recognition and assistance for special legacy businesses; and challenges of some organizations to meet the COV’s gender equity objectives.

It was agreed that the Chair would email the City Clerk expressing CHAPC’s support to proceed with appointing this year’s nominations and to strive to work with individual organizations to have a more equity gender balanced membership in future.

Discussion continued on: defining how CHAPC currently fits in the decision-making process and where it would like to be; and potential role of CHAPC in the earlier review of applications.

7:18 p.m. Edmund Ma departed the meeting.

Discussion continued on: whether to include clans/youth/seniors/at-large/education/cultural/historian members, etc. on CHAPC; potential to lengthen the term of membership in the interest of ensuring there is continuity; potential role of CHAPC to develop relationships with the cultural department regarding the cultural program for Chinatown in 2018.

**4) Adjournment**

The Chinatown Historic Area Planning Committee meeting held March 8, 2018 adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

**Next meeting:**

DATE: April 12, 2018  
TIME: 5:30 pm  
PLACE: Chinese Cultural Centre Boardroom, 50 East Pender Street

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Chair Helen Lee

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Date Approved