



**CHINATOWN HISTORIC AREA PLANNING COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 13, 2018**

Minutes of the meeting of the Chinatown Historic Area Planning Committee (CHAPC) held on Thursday, September 13, 2018, in the Boardroom of the Chinese Cultural Centre, 50 East Pender Street, Vancouver, BC.

PRESENT: Acting Chair, Edmund Ma, Chinatown Property Owner
Marianne Amodio, Architectural Institute of BC
Andrew Larigakis, Architectural Institute of BC
Inge Roecker, Heritage Vancouver (arrived at 6:07 p.m.)
Mark Shieh, Chinatown Property Owner
May So, Member at Large
Raymond Tam, Chinese Benevolent Association (arrived at 5:58 p.m.)

ABSENT: John Atkin
(Vincent) Pui Lam Ho, Chinatown Merchants Association
Councillor Kerry Jang
Commissioner Erin Shum, Vancouver Park Board
Trustee Allan Wong, Vancouver School Board
Grace Wong, BC Chinatown Merchants Association
Michael Yu, BC Chinatown Merchants Association

RECORDING SECRETARY: Roberta Pak, Mosaic Writing Group

Call to Order

Edmund Ma, Acting Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:37 p.m. and noted that a quorum was not present.

1. Adoption of Agenda and Minutes

MOVED by Marianne Amodio

SECONDED by Mark Shieh

THAT the Chinatown Historic Area Planning Committee:

1. Adopts the agenda for September 13, 2018 meeting as presented; and
2. Adopts the minutes of the July 12, 2018 meeting as presented.

CARRIED

2. Regulation Redesign Project

Marco D'Agostini, Manager, Regulation Redesign, provide a presentation titled "Regulation Redesign: Simplifying Rules for City Building" regarding the City of Vancouver (City) initiative to review and update by-laws, polices and guidelines related to building and development and highlighted:

- Overview of the process being undertaken by the staff team
- Identification of the need for reconciliation of conflicting regulations and policies
- The need to simplify regulations by making them more consistent and to present the information in a manner designed to reduce overall processing time
- Process will include a review of the role of Land Use Advisory Committees and their Terms of Reference
- A survey will be distributed to CHAPC members in late October/early November 2018.

Discussion ensued on:

- Additional specialized consultation work with cultural groups may be undertaken as part of the Commercial Permits review process
- Streamlining the application process:
 - Reformatting of information may simplify the work of professionals in the application process and assist plan checkers:
 - Use of table formats
 - Use graphics to improve interpretations
 - The number of calculations required for an application and duplicated internally should be carefully reviewed:
 - Need to identify inconsistencies between how internal departments' make calculations
- Documentation produced by applicants could be impacted by the review
- Importance of zoning regulations conforming to City objectives
- The focus of this review is regulatory changes. Chinatown-specific changes would be considered under programs such as the Chinatown Transformation Project and would include broader public consultation.

3. Meeting with Chinatown Transformation Team – Presentation and Introduction of Members

Helen Ma, Senior Planner, introduced the members of the Chinatown Transformation Team (CTT) and provided an overview of the scope of work to be undertaken, and highlighted:

- The CTT will work closely with the Downtown Eastside (DTES) Team
- The formulation of a strategic plan for the project is underway:
 - Target to have the roadmap completed by the end of 2019
- The concept of Living Heritage will be explored through the course of the project
- Seven City staff members have been assigned to the CTT with the goal of having actions fully implemented by 2028
- Five key areas of focus:
 - Intangible heritage
 - Business and economic development
 - Tangible heritage
 - Community building within Chinatown
 - Building relationships outside of Chinatown
- Immediate next steps will include launching working groups (Fall 2018)
- A CTT site office will be located at 1888 East Pender Street
- In three years, a decision will be made as to whether a United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) designation is desirable:
 - If applicable, a process will be launched to prepare the application.

Discussion ensued on:

- A clear definition of “living heritage” will be developed through research and consultation
 - Understanding intangible heritage variables has implications on decisions relating to tangible heritage, e.g. the kind of spaces required
- Importance of addressing the problems of the area:
 - Violence and increased garbage are issues affecting both the DTES and Chinatown
 - Chinatown has become the epicentre of the DTES issues
 - Transformation cannot be achieved without attention to these issues
 - The development of a management plan for the issues is beyond the scope of the CTT
- The timing of the Regulation Redesign Project and Chinatown Transformation Project provides an opportunity for CHAPC members to discuss its future role in affecting policy related to Chinatown
- Importance of identifying the deep connection between Chinatown and First Nations.

4. Adjournment

MOVED by Mark Shieh

SECONDED by Andrew Larigakis

That the meeting of the Chinatown Historic Area Planning Committee meeting held September 13, 2018 be adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

CARRIED

Next Meeting:

Date: October 11, 2018

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Place: Chinese Cultural Centre Boardroom, 50 East Pender Street

* * * * *

Certified correct:

Chair

Date Approved