

**MINUTES OF THE
GASTOWN HISTORIC AREA PLANNING COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 15, 2017**

A Regular Meeting of the Gastown Historic Area Planning Committee (GHAPC) was held on Wednesday, November 15, 2017 at 4:00 p.m., in Room 5A-W at the City of Vancouver, Woodward's Heritage Building, 111 West Hastings Street, Vancouver, BC.

PRESENT: Shelley Bruce, Community Heritage Representative, Chair
Glade Schoenfeld, Community Engineer, Vice Chair
Glenda Bartosh, Local Property Owner (departed 5:55 p.m.)
Brady Dunlop, Community Architect
Franke James, Community Business Representative
Samuel Sugita, Community Resident Owner
(arrived 4:24 p.m.)

REGRETS/ABSENT: Mahbod Biazi, Community Property Owner Representative
Rebecca Bishop, Community Resident Tenant Representative
Eddie Emermen, Community Business Representative
Councillor Kerry Jang, City Council Representative
Councillor Raymond Louie, City Council Representative
Commissioner Michael Wiebe, Vancouver Park Board

ALSO PRESENT: Zlatan Jankovic, Heritage Planner, COV
Rachel Magnusson, Engagement Lead, Transportation
Planning, Engineering Services, COV (Item 2)
Jordan Magtoto, Transportation Planning, COV (Item 2)

RECORDING SECRETARY: Rae Ratslef, Raincoast Ventures Ltd.

A quorum being present, Chair Shelley Bruce called the meeting to order at 4:13 p.m.

1) Adoption of Agenda and Minutes

The Agenda of the Gastown Historic Area Planning Committee (GHAPC) meeting scheduled November 15, 2017 and the Minutes of the GHAPC meeting held November 8, 2017 was approved with amendment to:

- Defer consideration of the November 8, 2017 meeting minutes to the next meeting
- Add Item 3, Blood Alley Square and Trounce Alley Redesign Update.

2) Gastown Complete Streets

Rachel Magnusson, Engagement Lead, Transportation Planning, Engineering Services, COV, provided an overhead presentation on the Gastown Complete Streets Initiative - Transportation Area Plan, highlighting: project background; transportation plan area and goals; planning process.

4:24 p.m. Samuel Sugita arrived at the meeting.

Ms. Magnusson continued the presentation and discussed the public engagement process; concept and visions of car-light; historic streets; and imagining Gastown streets.

Staff responded to questions and comments on: potential water element on Water Street; historical materiality; beautification of Gastown in the 70's; plans for a technical transportation plan; potential pedestrian connection to Crab Park; need to acknowledge the neighbourhood as a whole; potential use of permeable pavers; climate change; implications of sea level rise; importance of audible elements of Gastown; potential to limit heavier vehicles on Water Street; historic rail right of way; long term concept of the streetcar planning team; encouragement to look to North American examples for lessons learned about car-lighting; early summer survey findings; importance of First Nations engagement; opportunity to address First Nations history more substantively; and joint work that would occur to undertake the public design of spaces.

Ms. Magnusson discussed next steps, and responded to further questions and comments regarding: phase 2; plans to consult with other stakeholders; encouragement to put out a national call for a heritage consultant; work on the DTES Plan; need for a clear understanding of what the community wants Gastown to be; caution against "Europefication" of Gastown; importance of trees and plants; need for the new design to include proper maintenance; need for the streets to be sympathetic to the buildings; consideration for traffic along the alleyways; idea of Cordova being a two-way street; how the Centerm Expansion factors into plans for Gastown; potential use of airspace above rail; and opportunities for public art.

3) Blood Alley Square and Trounce Alley Redesign Update

The Committee received a presentation on the Blood Alley Square and Trounce Alley Redesign at its meeting on November 8, 2017.

Discussion ensued on the Redesign. Comments were offered regarding: difficulty of providing feedback without a statement of significance; concern the design places more value in the materials than in the narrative of the square and alley; origins of the space; interest to revitalize Trounce Alley; complications of the programming in the space; potential to pre-sort waste and recycling; need to use the standards and guidelines appropriately; incorporating the theme of reconciliation.

5:55 p.m. Glenda Bartosh departed the meeting.

The Committee summarized its feedback on the Redesign as follows:

- Ensure there is an accurate historical narrative presented in the design
- Ensure that the standards and guidelines for the conservation of historic places in Canada is used in the way it was intended by referring to the standards and guidelines for cultural landscapes appropriately
- Acknowledge and appreciate the efforts being made to assess the status of and to and maintain/replace as many trees as possible
- Look for opportunities for reconciliation in telling the narrative
- Ensure that Indigenous history has been explored and reflected in the design
- Consider developing a design driver that reflects the square's heritage value and character defining elements
- Palette of materials should compliment those that could be considered for the Water Town Complete Streets
- Look for opportunities to ensure the rustic/uneven parts of the area are maintained.

Next meeting:

DATE: December 20, 2017
TIME: 4:00 p.m.
PLACE: Woodward's "W" Room, 5th Floor
Woodward's Heritage Building
111 West Hastings Street
Vancouver, B.C. V6B 1H4

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:05 p.m.

Chair

Date Approved