



**GASTOWN HISTORIC AREA PLANNING COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
SEPTEMBER 16, 2020**

Minutes of the meeting of the Gastown Historic Area Planning Committee (GHAPC) held on Wednesday, September 16, 2020, via videoconference.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Brady Dunlop, Community Architect, Chair  
Peter Meiszner, Community Resident Owner, Vice-Chair  
Mahbod Biazi, Community Property Owner  
Sarah Chesterman, Community Resident Tenant  
Clarence Lowe, Community Business Representative  
Natalie Telewiak, Local Property Owner  
Jurian ter Horst, Community Heritage Representative  
(departed at 5:36 p.m.)

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Viktorija Barakauskas, Community Engineer

**GUESTS:** David Vertesi, Vancouver Mural Festival (Item 3.1)

**STAFF:** Zlatan Jankovic, Senior Heritage Planner  
Amber Knowles, Heritage Planner  
Nancy Lee, Telecommunications Systems Analyst  
Hugh McLean, Heritage Planner

**RECORDING SECRETARY:** Carol Lee, Mosaic Writing Group

**Call to Order**

Hugh McLean, Heritage Planner, called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. and conducted the roll call.

Mr. McLean acknowledged the unceded ancestral territories of the territories of the Musqueam, Squamish, and Tsleil-Waututh First Nations and thanked them for having care for this land.

**1. Chair and Vice Chair Election Process**

**1.1 Election of the Chair**

Carol Lee, Recording Secretary, called for nominations for the position of Chair for a term ending September 16, 2021. Brady Dunlop and Jurian ter Horst were nominated and consented to the nomination.

Ms. Lee called a second and third time for nominations.

Brady Dunlop was elected as the Chair, for a term commencing immediately and expiring on September 16, 2021.

## 1.2 Election of the Vice-Chair

Ms. Lee called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair for a term ending September 16, 2021. Peter Meiszner and Mahbod Biazi were nominated and consented to the nomination.

Ms. Lee called a second and third time for nominations.

Peter Meiszner was elected as the Vice-Chair, for a term commencing immediately and expiring on September 16, 2021.

### Change in Chair

Mahbod Biazi assumed the chair.

## 2. Adoption of Agenda and Minutes

MOVED by Peter Meiszner  
SECONDED by Sarah Chesterman

THAT the Gastown Historic Area Planning Committee adopts the agenda for the September 16, 2020 meeting, as presented.

CARRIED

MOVED by Jurian ter Horst  
SECONDED by Peter Meiszner

THAT the Gastown Historic Area Planning Committee adopts the minutes of the November 20, 2019 meeting, as presented.

CARRIED

### Change in Chair

Brady Dunlop assumed the chair.

## 3. Vancouver Mural Festival

### 3.1 160 West Cordova Street (not on VHR, "M" – DP-2020-00690)

David Vertesi, Executive Director, Vancouver Mural Festival, reviewed the Development Permit Application to provide a mural on the municipally designated building located at 160 West Cordova Street and highlighted:

- Context of the proposed mural location
- The mural is supported the building and business owners and the Gastown Business Improvement Society
- The Mural Program is used as a form of vandalism and graffiti deterrence
- Artist information
- Proposed mural design
- Support provided by the Vancouver Mural Festival for the repair and removal of murals.

The applicant and staff responded to questions from the GHAPC members on:

- The Vancouver Mural Festival is discussing the removal of the dumpsters with the building owner:
  - Potential for the dumpsters to be wrapped and incorporated into the mural design
  - The dumpsters are not an issue in the mural design and act as a deterrent to vandalism
- The role of the Vancouver Mural Festival and Gastown Business Improvement Society in maintaining the mural
- The selection of the artist and the mural design
- As Gastown is designated a heritage site, it would be necessary for the City to issue a Heritage Alteration Permit, with applicable conditions, if the Development Permit is approved
- Suggestion to include the front of the building in the project to deter graffiti and to improve the presence of the building:
  - Different rules would apply to the front façade
- Suggestion that the community be engaged in the execution and celebration of the mural
- There are currently no applications for a mural on a heritage location in Chinatown or other protected site.

**Action Item (01):** Staff to schedule a presentation on the Mural Program to be provided at a GHAPC meeting before the end of 2020.

Members provided the following feedback:

- The mural design does not relate to Vancouver or Gastown
- Concern regarding the maintenance of the artwork.

MOVED by Mahbod Biazzi

SECONDED by Peter Meiszner

That the Gastown Historic Area Planning Committee:

1. Supports the mural proposed for 160 West Cordova Street (DP--2020-00690), in principle; and
2. Recommends consideration of a request to staff to ensure that anti-graffiti measures are implemented for the maintenance of the artwork for its life.

CARRIED

### 3.2 **1 Alexander Street and 21 Water Street (DB-2020-02486 and DB-2020-02485)**

Mr. McLean reviewed the application to install seasonal lighting in the right-of-way between 1 Alexander Street and 21 Water Street, in conjunction with the Mural Festival, and highlighted:

- The opportunity to brighten the area in conjunction with the Mural Festival
- Both buildings are entered in the Heritage Register
- The light string and a speaker would be installed at a height of 30'
- There will be three points of contact on each of the 1 Alexander Street and 21 Water Street buildings
- Requirement that the light string be attached with minimal impact on the buildings

- The permit would expire after one year.

Staff responded to questions from the GHAPC members on:

- Whether there is any concern regarding the theft of the speaker
- Suggestion that there be a requirement for the speaker to be turned off by a specific time
- The inclusion of the speaker was an error and it is outside the scope of the Building Development Permit application
- The proposed lighting is in keeping with the character of Gastown to enliven an inactive area

### **Member Departed**

Jurian ter Horst departed the meeting at 5:36 p.m.

- The characteristics and quality of the light emitted from the lightbulbs
- Suggestion that the fastening mechanism be a permanent installation and the lighting be approved for a specified time period
- Repair of the building would be required if the fastening mechanism is removed
- The finish of the fastening mechanism should be in keeping with the character of the area
- The use of the roadway was not stipulated in the application.

Members provided the following feedback:

- Suggestion that the lighting be approved for a two-year period
- Suggestion that the finish of the fastening mechanism be in keeping with the character of the neighbourhood.

MOVED by Mahbod Biazi

SECONDED by Natalie

That the Gastown Historic Area Planning Committee supports the lighting strategy, as presented, for 1 Alexander Street and 21 Water Street (DB-2020-02486 and DB-2020-02485), in principle, and recommends the following for further consideration:

1. Supporting a period of approval for longer than one year;
2. The anchor points to the building, as proposed, be finished in a manner that reflects the character of the neighbourhood and be of a non-reflective finish; and
3. The approval not be related to the proposal for a speaker.

CARRIED

**4. Adjournment**

MOVED by Mahbod Biazi  
SECONDED by Sarah Chesterman

THAT the meeting of the Gastown Historic Area Planning Committee meeting held September 16, 2020 be adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

CARRIED

**Next Meeting:**

Date: October 21, 2020  
Time: 4:00 p.m.  
Place: Videoconference (WebEx Events)

Certified correct:

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Brady Dunlop, Chair

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Date Approved