

MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING – TUESDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2023
ATRIUM CONFERENCE ROOM – 500 CASTRO STREET
10:00 A.M.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by Chair Pamela Baird.

2. **ROLL CALL**

Present: Committee members Anne Cavanaugh, Mike Kasperzak, Marina Keith, Kira Pascoe, Merry Yen, Vice Chair Jamil Shaikh, and Chair Pamela Baird.

Absent: David Lin (unexcused) and Money Singh (unexcused).

Staff Present: John Lang, Economic Vitality Manager; Edgar Maravilla, Senior Planner; Aruna Bodduna, Transportation Planner; Diana Pancholi, Principal Planner; Jasmine Ortega, Management Fellow; and Theresa Yvonne, Executive Director..

3. **MINUTES APPROVAL**

The minutes of the September 5, 2023 meeting were distributed prior to the meeting and approved as distributed.

Motion—M/S Kasperzak/Shaiikh—Carried 7-0-2 Lin and Singh absent—To approve the minutes of the September 5, 2023 meeting.

4. **UPCOMING AGENDA TOPICS**

- Downtown Safety
- Sister Cities/Sibling cities
- Refresher on role as a committee member

5. **ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC—None.**

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

6.1 DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Planning Division staff provided an update on downtown development projects. Project No. 5 in the staff report, 705 W. Dana Street, has updated language reflecting an Administrative Zoning hearing on October 11th. Project No. 7 is scheduled to have an Administrative Zoning hearing on October 11th and go to Council on November 7th. Project No. 21, Downtown Precise Plan Comprehensive Update, a study session is planned for November 7th as noted by Principal Planner Diana Pancholi. The study session will inform scope of work on the project to secure consultant services. A scope of work is envisioned to come back to City Council in 1st Quarter 2024.

Public Comment: Jasmin Aber asked about what is happening regarding downtown vacancies and activating storefronts. In addition, they wanted to know why the chat feature was disabled during the committee meeting.

No action taken.

6.2 CASTRO STREET UPDATE

Economic Development staff provided the following updates related to the downtown:

- We received 29 Small Business Equipment Grants as of September 30, 2023. Staff is reviewing the applications for consistency with the Grant Guidelines.
- Staff is diligently reviewing the patio applications that go into effect on November 1, 2023. The first set of partition barriers have been ordered.
- Staff held a meeting with Downtown property owners in September to hear what some of the challenges are as well as communicate various City initiated efforts and projects occurring in Downtown.

Staff presented information on vacancies in the Downtown.

Type	GF Vacant	Non GF Vacant	Permit/Development	Change of Ownership	Business Name	Business Address
Food	y		y		U DESSERT STORY	171 CASTRO
Retail/Food	y		y		U DESSERT STORY	175 CASTRO

Type	GF Vacant	Non GF Vacant	Permit/Development	Change of Ownership	Business Name	Business Address
Office		y			CAPITOLA INSURANCE INC	196 CASTRO ST A
Office		Y			VELOCITY SOFTWARE/CAPITOLA	196 CASTRO ST D
100 Block Total	2	1	2	0		
Office		y			MAGNITE CTV INC	200 BLOSSOM LANE
Office		Y			Office space above Red Rock	201 CASTRO ST 3RD/4TH FLOOR
Office		y			WORKATO INC	215 CASTRO ST 300
Food	Y	Y			MERVYN'S	236 CASTRO ST
Food	Y			Y	YONGQIANG-MV INC (SUSHI ARASHI mv)	240 CASTRO ST
Service		y			ART FRAME STUDIO	257 CASTRO ST 100
Retail	y				FURNITURE & ART	262 CASTRO ST
Office	y				VACANT OFFICE	274 CASTRO
Retail	y				BEYOND THREADS LLC	275 CASTRO ST
Office		y			STEALTHMODE LLC (VACANT)	277 CASTRO ST
Office		y			LUMINOUS COMPUTING INC	278 CASTRO ST
Retail	y				Nancy Gee Location	279 CASTRO
Retail	y				KIWICO INC	285 CASTRO ST
Food	Y		y		ROCKETFIZZ	298 CASTRO
200 Block Total	8	7	1	1		
Office		y			UDEMY INC	301 CASTRO ST 200
Retail	Y				TAP PLASTICS (Cypress Investments)	312 CASTRO
Office		Y			Huddl.ai (VACANT)	321 Castro St
Food	Y				RUMBLE FISH	357 CASTRO ST 3A
Food	Y				NEW CHINA MARUICHI RESTAURANT (NEW BAY BIRYANIS??)	360 CASTRO
Food	y				Former William Matson Architect	368 CASTRO ST
Professional Service	y		y			384 CASTRO ST
300 Block Total	5	2	1	0		
Office		Y			TISHMAN SPEYER PROPERTIES	400 CASTRO ST
Personal Service	Y				Was a planned Yoga Office space within Tower	444 CASTRO ST
Office		Y				444 CASTRO
Office		y				453 CASTRO ST

Type	GF Vacant	Non GF Vacant	Permit/Development	Change of Ownership	Business Name	Business Address
Office		y				455 CASTRO ST
Office		y				457 CASTRO ST
Office		y				461 CASTRO ST
Office		y				465 CASTRO ST
Office	y				Old Dentist Location Vacant	471 CASTRO ST
400 Block	2	7	0	0		
Financial	Y		Y		OLD WELLS FARGO SOBRATO BUILDERS INC	590 CASTRO ST 599 CASTRO ST 400
Non-profit		y				
500 Block	1	1	1	0		
Office		y			QUORA INC	605 CASTRO ST 1ST- 4TH F
Office		y			PURE STORAGE INC	650 CASTRO ST 400
Office		y			Vacant	655 CASTRO ST 7
Office		y			Vacant	655 CASTRO ST 8
600 block	0	4	0	0		
700 block	0	0	0	0		
Service	Y				Vacant	817 CASTRO
800 block	1	0	0	0		
900 block	0	0	0	0		
Total	19	22	5	1		

Public Comment: Jasmin Aber asked if there were any plans for Pop-ups or storefront activations in the vacant spaces.

No action taken.

6.3 DOWNTOWN COMMITTEE MEETING TIME

The Committee returned to the original discussion from September 5, 2023, on the potential for a different monthly meeting time. The purpose of changing the Tuesday meeting time is to better accommodate members of the Committee. Prior to the pandemic, the Committee met at 8:00 am versus 10:00 am per staff’s verbal presentation on the topic.

Motion—M/S Kasperzak/Yen—Carried 7-0-2 Lin and Singh absent. To approve the meeting time as 8 am.

Public Comment: None.

7. NEW BUSINESS

7.1 CENTER FOR PERFORMING ARTS DISCUSSION ON DOWNTOWN INTEGRATION.

Executive Director Theresa Yvonne provided an overview of how the Center for Performing Arts is operated. The CPA does not produce events, it merely is a venue that is made available for rent. In addition, the CPA has expanded its hours making the public art that is showcased in the lobby available more often and frequently. The CPA wants to better connect with the community and the audiences that are attracted to Downtown. Also highlight to the visitors that are attracted to the CPA what is available in the Downtown. The Performing Arts Committee is interested in partnering with both the Visual Art and Downtown Committees.

Committee members had question about curating shows which as explained by Theresa Yvonne the CPA does not perform that function, they are a facility rental.

Public Comment: Jasmin Aber asked if the CPA has applied for grants to get more diverse groups into the facility. Vacant storefronts are opportunities to do pop-ups.

8. COMMITTEE/STAFF COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chair Baird shared that the next Mountain View Historical Society Walking Tour will take place at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 22, 2023, starting at the Mountain View Transit Center. You can sign up through the website.

Committee member Kazperzak asked about when Personal Delivery Devices (PDD)s would be returning to Downtown Committee.

Staff shared with the Committee per a question from the last Downtown Committee, there is a local policy in effect to support local businesses.

Committee member Pascoe mentioned the Downtown Halloween on Castro will be occurring Saturday, October 28, 2023, from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm near the Monte Carlo.

Committee member Shaikh shared with the committee the sewer work staging that is going on for Castro Street. Was very impressed with the construction staging.

Chair Baird announced she will be traveling for the November meeting and Vice Chair would need to Chair the meeting.

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 11:29 a.m.

These Minutes are hereby submitted for approval by John Lang, Recording Secretary.

Approved on _____.

JL/1/CDD
~~819-10-03-23mn~~