

## **MINUTES**

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REGULAR MEETING – TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2024  
PLAZA CONFERENCE ROOM – 500 CASTRO STREET  
8:00 A.M.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 8:03 a.m. by Chair Pamela Baird.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Committee members Anne Cavanaugh (arrived at 8:07 a.m.), Mike Kasperzak (virtual), Peter Katz, Marina Keith, and Money Singh, Vice Chair Jamil Shaikh, and Chair Pamela Baird.

**Absent:** Committee members David Lin (excused) and Merry Yen (unexcused).

**Staff Present:** John Lang, Economic Vitality Manager; Amanda Rotella, Economic Development Strategist; Kirstin Hinds, Economic Development Strategist; Diana Pancholi, Principal Planner; and Aruna Bodduna, Transportation Planner.

**3. MINUTES APPROVAL**

The minutes of the December 5, 2023 meeting were distributed prior to the meeting and approved with one modification.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Motion—M/S** Kasperzak/Shaiikh—Carried 7-0-2; Lin, Yen absent—To approve the minutes of the December 5, 2023 meeting with an update to the listed Vice Chair.

**4. UPCOMING AGENDA TOPICS**

Items requested by the Committee:

- Fire Department 150th Anniversary
- Downtown events

5. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

One community member in attendance, who is interested in joining the Committee.

6. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

6.1 **DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

Community Development staff provided an update on downtown development projects. The Hope Street Lots project permit has expired, so that permit has been closed. City Project No.20, staff has completed interviews with consultants for the Downtown Precise Plan update and will be making a final recommendation to Council in the April timeline.

Chair Baird asked about the next step for Item No.6. Staff will return with an update next month. Chair Baird asked about Item No.9, which shows approved in 2022. Staff responded that the applicant just submitted a building permit last week.

Committee member Cavanaugh asked whether Planning staff refer facade applicants to the Facade Improvement Grant Program. Staff responded that they do make applicants aware of available City resources.

Committee member Katz asked whether any of the projects listed are Gatekeeper projects. Staff respond that none are.

**Public Comment:** None.

No action taken.

6.2 **CASTRO STREET UPDATE**

NOTE: Item 6.2 was considered out of agenda order before Item 6.1.

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

- Decorative Street Treatment;
- Outdoor Patio Area;
- Social Eddies;
- New Walk Your Bike Signs;
- Outdoor Furnishing Grant; and
- Facade Improvement Program.

Committee member Singh asked about lighting in alleyways. Staff responded that there were lighting updates on trellises on both the Castro Street and parking lot sides. Staff can evaluate lighting midblock.

Committee member Keith asked about tree lighting. Staff responded that tea lights were added to the smaller trees to provide additional light.

Committee member Singh asked about lighting of trees in the parking lots. Staff responded that there are some constraints but that this is something that can be explored.

**Public Comment:** A member of the public requested that the Committee investigate overflow piping on Castro Street business frontages.

No action taken.

## 7. NEW BUSINESS

### 7.1 PRESENTATION ON SISTER CITIES

NOTE: Item has been tabled until a future meeting.

### 7.2 ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

**Public Comment:**

**Motion**—M/S Kasperzak/Baird—Carried 7-0-2; Lin, Yen absent—To approve Jamil Shaikh as Chair.

**Motion**—M/S Baird/Katz—Carried 7-0-2; Lin, Yen absent—To approve Mike Kasperzak as Vice Chair.

## 8. COMMITTEE/STAFF COMMENTS, QUESTIONS, COMMITTEE REPORTS

Committee member Katz brought up the increase in crime, petty theft, and assault; return of hot dog vendor; and posed bringing back watch groups. He requested to have Chief Canfield attend a future meeting.

Committee member Keith requested bringing a Lunar New Year celebration downtown. She would like to have a presentation from the Community Services Department on upcoming events, a review of the Multicultural Festival, and criteria for bringing new events downtown.

Committee member Singh would like to discuss trash in the alleyways at a future meeting.

Chair Baird provided reminders for the Multicultural Festival on Saturday, the Fire Department anniversary on May 19, and the Mountain View Historical Association walking tour on Sunday, February 25, at 2:00 p.m.

Committee member Singh requested to bring one Asian/Indian event (Holi, Diwali, etc.) to downtown.

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:59 a.m.

These Minutes are hereby submitted for approval by Amanda Rotella, Recording Secretary.

Approved on \_\_\_\_\_.

AR/1/CDD  
818-02-06-24mn