

**Downtown Business Improvement District of Missoula  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Tuesday, September 20, 2016 from 3-5 pm at the DMP Office**

**PRESENT:** Tim France, Dan Cederberg, Kirk Bodlovic, Scott Stearns

**ABSENT:** Charlie Beaton, Carma Gilligan, Ellen Buchanan

**STAFF:** Linda McCarthy, Robert Giblin, Will Greenway, Sarah Ferguson

**MEETING COMMENCEMENT & INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS & PUBLIC COMMENT**

Board President Tim France called the meeting to order at 3:04 pm. The board, staff and guests went around the room and introduced themselves.

**Presentation on the Roxy Theater: Ingrid Lovitt & Mike Steinberg; IWFF/The Roxy**

Mike Steinberg, Executive Director began the presentation about The Roxy highlighting the past, present and future of the theater. The theater opened in September 1937. In 1994, The Roxy Theater burned down in an unsolved arson case. A continued discussion on the history of The Roxy ensued. The discussion turned to the International Wildlife Film Festival and how it has been saved and how it has expanded along with The Roxy's events and offerings. Promotional videos involving The Roxy and the International Wildlife Film Festival were played for the board. The Roxy has over 400 volunteers. In 2016, The Roxy has brought in over 20,000 people in attendance. The shows have also gone from about 700 to over 1,000.

Lovitt spoke to the board about membership. The program started last summer and there are different levels. There are over 500 members today. Education is a big part of the mission of the theater and they are expanding that program every year with programs in conjunction with the schools in and around the Missoula area.

A discussion began about the strategic plan that has been laid out until 2018. The big goal is how to pull as many people as possible into this historic theater. Another big goal and the reason they are here to speak with the board today is to focus on a historic restoration on the façade of the building. A discussion on the designer and the architect and how the façade will be applied to The Roxy if the funds are secured ensued. The restoration would focus on the marquee, the box office and painting the building. A discussion of the organizations already in support of this project ensued.

France asked if the fundraising was taking place over the next year. Lovitt replied that it was. Kirk Bodlovic asked if there was a timeframe that the money has to be raised by. Lovitt responded that it would need to be at least pledged by the end of the calendar year.

**Discussion in changes to Downtown policing with Missoula Police Officers Stepper, Potter, Delridge**

Officer Stepper addressed the board about any questions they have about Officer Rebecca Potter taking over Andy Roy's position as the Dedicated Downtown Police Officer (DDPO). He said he foresees Potter to have this position until at least January. He also stated that the two new DDPOs will begin in January. A discussion on what is being done currently in the Downtown area before the new DDPOs begin, ensued. Officer Delridge

spoke about how the Crime Prevention Officer's position will now change to part-time to include two days a week as Downtown detail.

France asked what the PD would like to see from the BID and Downtown retailers. Stepper responded that it is important to keep the lines of communications open and to call 911 and Potter if anyone ever sees a problem or something that needs to be addressed. A discussion on calls received in the office and how people seem unwilling to call 911 ensued. Further discussion on what ordinances might be needed to address the transient population ensued.

### **Bodlovic left the meeting at 4:01pm**

Officer Stepper said he believes having the additional Downtown officers will help the transient issues Missoula has in the summer months. A discussion on how other towns handle this problem ensued. Officer Stepper said they do speak with Billings, but Missoula has a more of a problem with transient than likely any other community in Montana. A discussion on how to help transients willing to go to treatment ensued. With no further questions, the Police Officers left the meeting at 4:12pm.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Without a quorum, the approval of meeting minutes was delayed until the October board meeting.

### **Quick Organizational Updates**

With only three board members in attendance, Linda McCarthy gave quick updates about things happening with the MDA, the MDF and the DMP.

**MDA:** McCarthy told the board the event season had come to a close.

**MDF:** Greenway reported the Friends of Downtown campaign party will take place on Friday, October 7.

**DMP:** McCarthy reported the Downtown Ambassadors schedules will change starting in October.

### **Initial Reactions to The Roxy**

McCarthy then asked the board their initial thoughts on The Roxy ask. At this time, the board didn't go into too much detail because there were so few board members in attendance. A discussion on the budget for the new-year ensued. The budget is tighter this year because of the drop in property assessments. A discussion on where the money could come from in the budget ensued. Cederberg said he will bring this proposal for \$5,000 to the finance committee and they will bring whatever recommendation they reach to the board.

With no other comments or announcements, the board meeting was adjourned at 4:50 pm.