

**Downtown Business Improvement District of Missoula
Board of Directors Meeting
Tuesday, October 17, 2017 from 3-5 pm at the DMP Office**

PRESENT: Tim France, Dan Cederberg, Kirk Bodlovic, Carma Gilligan, Ellen Buchanan

Absent: Scott Stearns, Charlie Beaton

STAFF: Linda McCarthy, Robert Giblin, Sarah Ferguson, Pam Udall

GUESTS: Rod Austin, Missoula Parking Commission, Shelagh More, Dedicated Downtown Police Officer

President Tim France called the meeting to order at 3:07 pm.

Shelagh More, Dedicated Downtown Police Officer: More started by telling the board she felt that having the lawn unavailable for people to gather was really helpful in having a good summer without large gatherings of transients. Three additional resource officers were hired last week. They will be doing a lot of municipal citations. More feels they are doing a great job in helping keep Downtown safe. More appreciated having more flexibility in her schedule this year. She believes there is about a 20-25 member group of hardcore alcoholics and drug users who do not respond to any of their enforcements and will not move. The people living on the street are smart and they get to know the schedules of all of the police officers and act accordingly. More believes overall, complaints are down amongst businesses in the Downtown area. MRL has been really slow to respond to request for services to clean up homeless camps. This time of year the out-of-state homeless are gone and they are dealing now with the 20-25 people who never leave. 98% of these people are addicted to alcohol and/or drugs and are severely mentally ill. More has been working more with the crisis intervention team. Gilligan asked if there was a technical machine that More can buy to write tickets. There really isn't, because she is on foot and not in a car. They have been using a digital ticketing system and More believes all ticketing will go this way. More does not have a lot of room to carry stuff on the bike. More has about 100 people she has identified in some way or another and she mentioned that 415 North Higgins is a good example of what retailers and property owners can accomplish with vigilance. More reported that there has been a rash of bike thefts in the Downtown area. She believes that the thieves know where the video surveillance is and they target places that do not have them. More told the board to encourage property owners to get video cameras as it helps identify and prosecute theft and vandalism. More said they do try to get the information out about the bike thefts. The bikes are being stolen and pieced out for meth and heroin. France asked if there was anything the board could do to support her. More said it's just really important to continue to tell people with complaints or who see anything to call 911. There will be a cheat sheet coming out of the Police Department to tell people what to expect when they call 911. France asked what "other" meant in the Officer report in the board packet she said that means she provided service, but it did not fit into the categories listed (i.e. medical transport). They are getting more complaints south of Tremper's or north to Reserve. Buchanan remarked that she feels it has been better because of the courthouse. A discussion about where cameras exist ensued. More really enjoys working with Chrismon. A discussion on St. Pats and the reason they are calling the police ensued. The amount of calls the police field because of people in mental health crisis is through the roof. More said she needs to be vigilant about the way she is contacting the homeless. A discussion on how More feels in her role and about certain people on the street ensued. In a year she has not been attacked, but she does think it would be

advantageous to have a dog. That would require additional training. She is able to get back-up for most issues, but it can take time which can cause issues surrounding safety. She has enjoyed the experience this last year.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Minutes: Gilligan motioned to approve the minutes, Cederberg seconded the motion, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

NON-ACTION ITEMS

Finance Report: \$130,000 in the bank accounts at the end of September. From a profit/loss perspective, the BID will make contributions to the Partnership just over \$50,000. The BID will receive \$303,000 in tax assessments up from last year. Buchanan said to make sure that contested tax assessments are not being withheld. The general liability insurance was paid in September which was about \$3,421. The clean team contract is paid out five days a week and we'll be reimbursed for one day a week from the parking commission. Doing fine from a cash flow perspective and Giblin is watching all of the expenditures. France asked why there was such a difference between projected and actual cash flow and Giblin responded it is a timing issue. France asked what the \$800 on the Visa bill is. It was a computer for Udall and the \$200 Amazon charge was an additional monitor for her.

Design Guidelines: issues or concerns: McCarthy reported the public comment period will end this week. She would like more engagement and to talk about concerns now instead of in the future. Comments on the projects can be made at missouladeignexcellence.org.

Downtown Master Plan Fundraising Underway: The direct mail has been sent out. Many of the board members should have received this mailing by now. The next planning session will be Oct 26 at 10am. A discussion on the mayoral race ensued. There will likely be a few boards that the Master Plan committee will have to get in front of. Checks will be directed to the Foundation. The goal is about \$400,000.

Update from MDAC: Cederberg reported they are working on the development of measurement tools to see about the progress of MDAC and the downtown area. MDAC is also still seeking a Native American representative to serve on the committee. Buchanan asked if anyone had reached out to Patrick Weaselhead. Cederberg will look into whether he has been approached. Cederberg said they are looking at wet housing, but have faced setbacks in the realm of grants for the project. They have been successful in coming up with all of the resources for the homeless and people needing mental health services to have that information in one place. They continue to work on the over-service issue and how to avoid loopholes. McCarthy said she has a couple of suggestions for the Native American representative is Dr. Anthony Lambert and Shane Morigeau.

Update on Maintenance: Daniel Tulk is still out with a broken rib which is now approaching 4 weeks. Ernie Nichols has been filling in, but there are gaps that need filling. Buchanan said that it would be a good idea to look at the contract with the city to make sure we are keeping up our end of garbage collection contract. If Tulk still cannot come back for a while, the BID might need to look into hiring a temp.

DMP: McCarthy reported she is close to wrapping up staff evaluations and that the DMP Board of Staff strategic planning session is slated for October 25.

MDA: Staff are gearing up for the holiday events and hosting Ladies Night on October 19.

MDF: The Foundation had its Friends of Downtown Campaign Launch Party on Oct 6, where Missoula was presented with the APA Great Neighborhood award. The Friends of Downtown campaign has launched and is trying to raise \$25,000. The license plate has brought in almost \$40,000. The parking meters brought in about \$26,000. There will be a parking meter garage sale on Saturday, October 28. The parking meters will be sold for \$75 and will be open to negotiation. The endowment for Caras Park is about \$40,000 and they are in the process of setting it up.

Reports

Mission Reports:

Clean: Clean team contract modifies at the end of October and they go back to 4 days a week. Buchanan asked if the Clean Team can be utilized for garbage if Tulk is out for longer. McCarthy said it is something the BID can look into if necessary.

Safe: Chrismon will be tapering his hours back to 30 hours per week.

Business Development: Udall reported that she has been visiting with a lot of the residential units that have popped up. A discussion on what the Flathead Lake Brewing Company is going to be doing ensued. Nick Caras took Udall on a tour of his properties. Caras has bought three properties downtown in that past three years. A couple of the retailers are disappointed that Caras increased his rates and feel it is contributing to gentrification. A discussion on gentrification ensued. Udall attended the High Tech conference at UM and thought it was fascinating and will be following up with some of the tech start-ups that were represented at the conference. There is discussion that a high tech company is looking into Missoula and there is word that it would offer 500 jobs.

Announcements: Liberty Electric will be coming next week to finish the phase II portion of the upgrades for the holiday décor. Missoula is hosting the USA Collegiate Bicycle gathering. The Senior Center got their roof fixed via insurance claims and they are able to stay in their building. France and McCarthy will attend the city's snow planning meeting next week. Copperopolis is concerned about garbage removal when there is snow in their alley. The Russell St project got let and Anderson Construction got the job.

With no additional announcements or comments, the meeting adjourned at 4:50pm.