

Downtown Business Improvement District of Missoula
Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, May 17, 2022 at 3 pm at the DMP Office (218 E. Main St.)

All Present: Dan Cederberg, Charlie Beaton, Karen Sippy, Carma Gilligan, Ellen Buchanan joined at 3:18PM, Scott Stearns joined at 3:45PM

Staff: Jack Hall, Linda McCarthy

Guests: Leah Ratterman – City of Missoula, Jay Gillhouse – DDPO, Mason Parker – Home Resource

The meeting was called to order by President Beaton at 3:05pm.

Beaton asked for around the room introductions.

Q&A with Police Officers Jay Gillhouse & Alexis Berger

Alexis had a workplace accident, which requires surgery and recovery. Unknown start date at this point, possibly early June. Gillhouse reports policing downtown is going smoothly. Not a lot of theft, shoplifting or fighting. Majority of time spent with homeless individuals. Gillhouse works closely with CIT program of City to provide treatment and housing resources for homeless individuals. Nine homeless individuals to date have been provided housing. Wellness Resources Accessibility Program (WRAP) apart of CIT has had success in downtown and is making a difference. Two student resource officers or SRO's will be joining Gillhouse in downtown bicycle police work once school gets out for the summer, including Officer Randy Krastel. Gillhouse reports graffiti has been occurring a lot, does not cross his path as much as through the police department. Sippy asks if Gillhouse notices graffiti being targeted or simply in general. Gillhouse responds it's both. Thankfully downtown is not experiencing hate or racially charged graffiti. The dynamic of homelessness downtown changed almost immediately when the Johnson Street shelter closed down this spring. Gilligan asks if Gillhouse needs anything for his position to be more successful. Gillhouse reports Chief White and the BID have provided everything necessary thus far to be successful in his role. McCarthy stated policing in Missoula should provide data on housing provided for homeless individuals through the CIT program. Cederberg asked about private security at Johnson Street Shelter being the same as the Poverello Center. Gillhouse reports they are the same company. They are easy to work with and Poverello Center staff was apprehensive at first but now love having them around, especially at night. Buchanan asked who is contracted for security services. Gillhouse stated Rogers International Security. Gillhouse is currently working four-day, ten hour shifts until August 15th when he will switch to the same schedule as Berger and the rest of the police department. This will provide seven-day coverage of downtown policing. 3:36PM End.

Request for Support on Expanded Recycling Services: Leah Ratterman from City & Mason from Home Resource

Ratterman is welcomed back and presents request to add more recycling bins downtown. Ratterman states the goal of city is ZeroWaste by 2050 which includes an increase in downtown recycling. Ratterman is seeking funding for the hard costs of the recycling bins made by Victor Stanley. McCarthy notes that the BID is operating without a weekend maintenance manager and has had a hard time filling the position in the four weeks it has been posted. Gilligan asks how much property taxes will rise. McCarthy reminds board that the \$845/month increase to the garbage contract would be distributed to property owners within the Flushing District only. Ratterman states there is a possibility for some infrastructure funding from the State of Montana but has not been secured. Cederberg mentions the contamination of the recycling bins and his concerns of such. Parker mentions that globally 90% of what goes into recycling bins gets recycled. Education and community outreach will be needed along with signage on the bins for what are proper items to recycle in this community. Beaton asks what happens when contamination does happen. Currently Ray Kroenke is hand sorting recycling. Parker announces the launch of Pledge Zero for businesses last month. Sippy asks

for a copy of the mapped recycling bin locations. Gilligan asks for a copy of the proposed signage. McCarthy feels City of Missoula should help fund this initiative. Cederberg asks about statistical reporting if we do commit to this project. Parker says they are working more with Republic Services to collect that type of data. 4:10PM End.

Approval of Minutes: Sippy had a few edits with repeated words. Buchanan moved to approve the minutes. Cederberg seconded and the April minutes were unanimously approved.

Review of Investment Polling & Potential Approval of Budget FY2023

Not conclusive. Only four respondents completed the survey. Review again next year and have board fill out the survey in person during a board meeting. Hall went through the budget line item by item. Stearns asked about assessment savings and to make it visible from past years. Hall agreed it was a good idea for visualization purposes and will add in. Stearns moved to approve the budget. Sippy seconded and the budget passes unanimously.

Review & Potential Approval of Investment in Expanded Recycling Services for Downtown

Beaton would like to delay a motion until the following board meeting. Board discussion was had about the fact that we currently do not have the staffing to fulfill this request of increased service without a weekend maintenance manager. Stearns proposes we adopt a motion at the next board meeting to fulfill this request in some manner for the following fiscal year 2023-24.

Financial Review: Hall gave the financial review starting with the balance sheet. The BID currently has \$167,073.29 in Current Assets. There were standard income and expenses on the Profit & Loss statement for April. The two major expenses for the BID were a contribution to the Downtown Missoula Partnership for Salaries & Benefits along with the second-year pledge of \$50,000 for the North Riverside Parks and Trails Plan, Caras Park Phase One upgrades, written to the Missoula Downtown Foundation.

Discussion on Topics & Format for BID Ratepayer Meeting

McCarthy reminds the BID Ratepayer meeting is happening Tuesday, June 21st in Caras Park 4-5:30PM. Invitations are out and Market on Front will be doing our catering for the event. Gilligan would like to have handouts for the event. Beaton reminds board members the discussion will largely be around Caras Park upgrades, downtown happenings, capital improvements and the vibrancy of downtown. Sippy mentioned the new storm water infiltration system has done wonders to reroute the pollution outfall to Brennan's wave and corrected a large standing issue. McCarthy draws board attention to the Missoula Downtown Master Plan presentation provided in the board packet to review before the event for talking points.

Discussion on Business Development Partnership with MEP:

McCarthy gave some history of the position. The salary we currently budget is not competitive for that position. Grant Kier with Missoula Economic Partnership has proposed a partnership to combine resources, goals and strategies to hire a full-time position with MEP to work on the business development goals we collectively have. There is a work session with the MEP in June where this will be discussed. The position would be an MEP position and report directly to Grant, with reporting to the BID board on a regular basis. Stearns mentions there must be a well set up line of reporting so the BID maintains a benefit out of the investment. Beaton noted that John Corwin met with the MEP business development staff member years ago and he received a call from the MEP Director stating there was an overlap of service between the DMP and the MEP. McCarthy proposes the contract with MEP be a 3-year contracted position reviewed annually by the BID board. Board members present are in favor of moving forward with research into this partnership. Stearns, Beaton and McCarthy will work to draft deliverables and proposal for the partnership.

Presentation on Master Plan Accomplishments for 2021:

McCarthy asked for board members to please review before the ratepayer meeting June 21st.

Mission Work: Clean, Safe & Economic Vitality

In the interest of time, it will be brief. We are still looking for a weekend maintenance manager. Lots of graffiti remediation to do downtown. McCarthy did an interview with ABCFox today about graffiti issues downtown. Kroenke and Moore helped install flower baskets downtown today for the summer season.

Partner Updates: MDA & MDF:

McCarthy gave DMP updates. Two new interns hired this week largely for marketing purposes. City Council County Commissioners lunch will be June 14th at 11:30AM in Caras Park.

New Business & Announcements: Formal headshots will be available for all board members Thursday May 26th at the DMP office.

With no further business or announcements, the meeting was adjourned at 5:26PM