

Mayor's Downtown Advisory Commission Minutes
May 3, 2016

Commission Members in Attendance: Ginny Merriam (City of Missoula), Eran Fowler Pehan (Poverello Center), Michael Moore (Reaching Home: Missoula's 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness), Dan Cederberg (Downtown Attorney), Nicole Rowley (County Commissioner), Elizabeth Marshall (Palace Apartments), Melinda Mason (Children's Mental Health Bureau), Tara Maus (Montgomery Distillery) and Dave Chrismon (Downtown Ambassador)

Commission Members Absent: Andrea Marcoccio, Jon Wilkins (City Council), Keithi Worthington (Deputy City Attorney), Judge Kathleen Jenks (Municipal Court Judge), Susan Hay Patrick (United Way), Rob Scheben (Citizen), Loreen Hamilton (Salvation Army), Travis Mateer (Homeless Outreach Volunteer), Margaret Borg (Retired Attorney), Bryan von Lossberg (City Council) and Sue Wilkins (Missoula Correctional Services)

Others in Attendance: Sindie Kennedy (Grants) and Heidi Bakula (Mayor's Office)

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of February 2, 2016, March 1, 2016 and April 5, 2016 will be reviewed at a later date. No quorum present.

1. Public Comment
2. Discussion and Reporting on Work Groups

Additional sworn police officer dedicated to downtown – Nothing new to report.

Crisis/drop-in/Warming Center – Nothing new to report.

Economic impact of indigence – Nothing new to report.

Dog licensing

Dan Cederberg met with Jeff Darrah of Animal Control and Linda McCarthy of Missoula Downtown. Jeff supported impounding a dog with a second offense for no license. Chief Brady also supports this effort. The next step is to change the ordinance in order to enforce within city limits. There will always be an option for the dog owner and dog to leave town.

Cola Rowley is concerned about the cost of impounding a dog could be a big impediment to transient people traveling through if there dog is impounded. There needs to be balance within the process. Space at the shelter is also an issue. Jeff explained that space will not be an issue.

Advocacy and Education Committee / Parking Meter Repurposing – Nothing new to report.

Alcohol retail sales reduction – Nothing new to report.

10-Year Plan/Challenges to detox programs – short-term information-gathering

- Eran Fowler-Pehan and Michael Moore will be traveling to Spokane to meet with Catholic Charities soon.

- Montana received a HUD Technical Assistance Grant and at an upcoming healthcare conference funding of Medicare will be discussed. Currently \$50,000 of HUD funding has been lost, ten state programs have been lost and now Missoula needs to figure out a way to find that funding.
- The YWCA just received funding for rapid rehousing.
- At a recent Law & Justice Committee meeting in Helena, Partners for Reintegration discussed the issue of rehousing released prisoners and for the first time were taken seriously and asked to bring back data to the committee.
- The landlord that owns the White Housing at the old Bonner Mill Site is willing to house homeless veterans and invest in remodeling the houses.

3. Comments from Board Members

Eran Fowler-Pehan asked Cola Rowley if her group would come to MDAC and give a presentation on the draft Jail Diversion Report in June. Cola said she would talk to her group and they decided to start the meeting at 1pm instead of 1:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Heidi J. Bakula
Executive Assistant

Date of Next Meeting, Jack Reidy Conference Room, June 7, 2016