

Mayor's Downtown Advisory Commission

Minutes

October 7, 2014

Commission Members in Attendance: Ginny Merriam (City of Missoula), Keithi Worthington (Deputy City Attorney), Sue Wilkins (Missoula Correctional Services), Travis Mateer (Poverello Center), Michael Moore (Reaching Home: Missoula's 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness), Eran Fowler Pehan (Poverello Center), Dan Cederberg (Downtown Attorney), Margaret Borg (Retired Attorney), Jon Wilkins (City Council), Caitlin Cople (City Council), Jason Wiener (City Council), Bryan Von Lossberg (City Council), Tara Moss (Montgomery Distillery), Brent Dobak (Downtown Ambassador), Melissa Gordon (Grants), Susan Hay Patrick (United Way), Laurie Johnson (Downtown Ambassador) and Jenny Montgomery (Montgomery Distillery)

Commission Members Absent: Paige Livingston (One Eleven), Michele Landquist (County Commissioner), Barbara Wickel (Missoula Interfaith Collaborative), Rob Scheben (Police Department), Melanie Brock, and Melinda Mason (Word)

Others in Attendance: Heidi Bakula (City of Missoula)

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of September 2, 2014 are approved as submitted.

1. Special Presentations

➤ Downtown Housing – Brent Campbell, WGM

Brent Campbell from the engineering firm of WGM Group spoke to the committee about downtown housing planning.

- The city's downtown master plan identifies building strategies and density of the downtown.
- He is interested in developing urban infill housing in the downtown in order to decrease driving by walking to work and to encourage people of all incomes to live downtown.
- Currently he is investigating some land near Kiwanis Park and the Holiday Inn to build one building with two dwelling units. At this stage he did not have an exact price point but he thought they would start at around \$600,000.
- It should be easier to get loans on housing now. Townhomes are built on land the homeowner owns unlike condominiums.
- Another option is to build an additional accessory dwelling unit off of the townhome.
- Some issues with downtown development are that land is very expensive which means the housing will be built dense enough and be priced high enough to recoup the investment.
- Other problems are historic building requirements, aging buildings, hazardous waste cleanup, regulatory issues and neighborhoods that do not want infill.
- He would like the city to create a residential zoning overlay in Missoula since so many parcels will require a zoning variance.
- The Kiwanis Park area is a high income area if the rental housing is removed.

➤ **Brainstorm/Choose New Projects**

(Commission members chose a list of Winter Projects, which is attached to these minutes. Members voted from a list of 20 proposed projects.)

Discussion of the projects:

Create rules/procedures to limit or control sales of packaged liquor downtown

Keithi Worthington said she would do some research on ordinances that could curtail alcohol sales downtown. Ginny Merriam explained that the mayor was interested in coming up with an agreement among the downtown businesses selling package liquor in which sales complied with a single policy for all retailers.

- Should they look at curtailing single servings?
- Curtail sales to the top ten abusers on a list – is this possible?
- Could ask establishments not to stock the ten most popular beverages.
- A voluntary agreement is a mutually meaningful agreement and business owners may not want to participate. Mayor Engen is interested in trying a voluntary program first, before considering an ordinance.

Provide the Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) with Transportation

Jason Wiener said he would look into finding a vehicle, possibly from the City, for the HOT team.

Fund and establish an additional downtown police officer

The commission discussed how they might fund a second downtown police officer in addition to the first officer, who is funded by the City of Missoula and the Downtown Business Improvement District of Missoula.

- Dan Cederberg offered to discuss it with the BID board and the Missoula Downtown Partnership.
- Jon Wilkins and Dan Cederberg volunteered to co-chair an ad hoc committee for this task.

Help 10 people get off the street and into services

The committee discussed what it might take to refer 10 high risk individuals into services, especially for alcoholism.

- The CIT (Crisis Center Intervention Team) and the Treatment Corp could help identify these individuals and those individuals would be helped case by case.
- They can be placed into existing systems and CIT and the Treatment Corp can identify gaps in the systems by working the issues and gathering the data.
- Eran Fowler Pehan added that creating the resource is what needs to happen first.
- A suggestion was made that MDAC should meet with the CIT. Ginny Merriam said she would invite a CIT leader to speak to MDAC, possibly in November.
- Travis Mateer stated that through HB130 the community may be receiving more money after the legislative session ends in April 2015.

A suggestion was made to use decommissioned meters in some areas downtown and the proceeds would go toward Real Change. Keithi Worthington offered to call Salt Lake City who has the program and ask them how they are directing the proceeds to a program.

2. Committee Updates

- Crime and Prevention – Keithi Worthington and Rob Scheben
No update (Travis Mateer and Michael Moore joined this committee)
- Real Change Promotion – Ginny Merriam
No update (Melissa Gordon joined this committee)

Ginny Merriam stated that Real Change would discuss and analyze the upcoming season and where to go from here and identify a way to reach and educate students on panhandling. They will also discuss publicity for the HOT Team.

- Built Environment – Margaret Borg
No update

Will continue working on the Art Park Plaza.

- Human Services – Jason Wiener and Susan Hay Patrick
No update

Human services will continue implementing the 10-year plan.

3. Miscellaneous Discussion

Front and Main Street Conversion

Jon Wilkins and Dan Cederberg were aware that Front and Main Streets were being studied for a two way conversion instead of just one way. This process had been going on for two years. Jon and Dan could update the committee on the status after discussing it with Development Services.

- 4. Reminder of next meeting date: November 4, 2014 – moved to November 7, 2014.

Respectfully Submitted,
Heidi J. Bakula
Executive Assistant

Date of Next Meeting
Jack Reidy Conference Room
November 7, 2014



Mayor's Downtown Advisory Commission Winter Projects 2014-15

Members of the Mayor's Downtown Advisory Commission devoted their Oct. 7 meeting to a planning session for winter projects. The goal was to take on projects that could be completed by April 30. The projects are in keeping with the charge of the commission, which is to work on issues and projects that relate to quality of life downtown with the aim of improving quality of life for all who work, do business, live and recreate downtown. The planning session focused on discussing and ranking projects suggested by the membership from needs they've observed or requests from others.

These are the selected projects and those responsible:

Fund and establish an additional downtown police officer

Downtown Police Officer Ad Hoc Committee

This project would add a second officer dedicated to public safety in the Downtown Business Improvement District of Missoula, with which the City of Missoula Police Department partners. This project received the greatest support of the 20 projects discussed.

Create rules/procedures to limit or control sales of packaged liquor downtown

Crime and Prevention Committee

Missoula Police Department crime prevention officer Rob Scheben has begun work on this at the direction of Chief Mike Brady and Mayor John Engen. The wish is to work out voluntary procedures among downtown liquor retailers as a first attempt.

Help 10 people get off the street into services

Bryan von Lossberg to coordinate, first with Crisis Intervention Team and Homeless Outreach Teams, with help from others as asked.

Outreach/create program to educate university students about giving to panhandlers
Real Change Committee

While people of all ages and demographics still give to panhandlers downtown, observers see a high percentage of young people who do not realize that giving in this way is detrimental. This population also sees a great deal of churn every fall when new students arrive.

Mini-projects to be investigated:

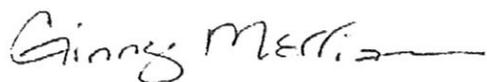
- **Using active parking meters to collect money for Real Change program (Keithi Worthington)**
- **Providing Homeless Outreach Teams with transportation (Jason Wiener)**

Human Services Committee continues to lead Reaching Home: Missoula's 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness and its steering committee.

Built Environment Committee continues work on the Art Park Plaza.

Keithi Worthington is researching potential revisions of the City camping ordinance.

Keithi Worthington is researching potential revisions of City dog licensing laws.



Ginny Merriam
Public Information / Communications Director
City of Missoula
MDAC Coordinator

October 2014