

**Mayor's Downtown Advisory Commission Minutes
December 6, 2016**

Commission Members in Attendance: Ginny Merriam (Mayor's Office), Eran Fowler Pehan (Housing & Community Development), Dan Cederberg (Downtown Attorney), Melinda Mason (Children's Mental Health Bureau), Bryan von Lossberg (City Council) Loreen Hamilton (Salvation Army), Sue Wilkins (Missoula Correctional Services), Lt. Jake Rosling (Police Department), Michael Moore, Nicole Rowley (County Commissioner), Elizabeth Marshall (Palace Apartments), Laurie Johnson (Downtown Ambassador), Margaret Borg (Retired Attorney) and Jon Wilkins (City Council)

Commission Members Absent: Kathleen Jenks (Municipal Court Judge) and Keithi Worthington (City Attorney)

Others in Attendance: Will Sebern (Housing & Community Development), Chris Fox (Salvation Army), Theresa Williams (Reaching Home Coordinator), Amy Allison Thompson (Poverello Center) and Heidi Bakula (Mayor's Office)

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of November 1, 2016 were approved as submitted.

1. New Business

Bryan von Lossberg stated that the new business for the group would be to discuss items that MDAC members wanted to work on in the coming year, plus suggestions or changes.

Loreen Hamilton is interested in working on unattended youth and homeless youth in Missoula. She's curious about unattended youth downtown and wants to direct them to services.

Bryan wants to work with trailer park owners on living conditions in their parks. His constituents have concerns about the trailer parks on the west side of town and he wants to work on park owners to instill better living conditions at the trailer parks in the area.

Lt. Jake Rosling discussed a recent burglary at the Florence Hotel and due to a good police presence they were able to identify the person very quickly.

Elizabeth Marshal explained that the Palace Hotel had recently installed cameras in their foyer due to the amount of people milling around inside trying to get warm.

Michael Moore talked to a group of young people that gather at the tent at Caras Park. He thinks it would be good for law enforcement to talk to them. They don't really want any services, they want their own area and to be left alone. Michael wishes MDAC could help more with impacting quality of life for these youth. Lt. Rosling explained that the group says they don't want to stay at the Poverello Center, but the truth is that they have been kicked out of the Poverello Center and not it's a source of pride.

2. Discussion and selection of working groups for 2017

1. Provide Public Support for a Drop-in Center – Group Leader Theresa Williams – members: Michael Moore, Cola Rowley, Bryan von Lossberg and Amy Allison Thompson

- Goal is not to duplicate but to gather data and support.
- Gather data for support – Theresa Williams will provide data.

- Communicate needs downtown with Reaching Home, etc.
- This group could assist the subcommittee working under Reaching Home.

2. **Reduce Specific Types of Alcohol Retail Sales** – Group Leader Michael Moore – members: Lt. Jake Rosling, Margaret Borg, Dan Cederberg, Melinda Mason

- Reduce certain types of alcohol on the shelves
- No-sell list
- Ticket retailers for over-service

3. **Education and Public Advocacy** – Group Leader Loreen Hamilton was nominated – members: Cola Rowley, Sue Wilkins, Ginny Merriam, Laurie Johnson

- Resurrect some sort of Real Change committee, start fresh. The Real Change message will never be 100% received, MDAC has to continue with its message. May do more education about calling 911 or the HOT Team – “Make the Call” campaign.
- Who is needed at the table, what organizations are not represented?
- Put together a communications schedule – social media campaign – ads in the paper

4. **Evaluation of Efforts** – Group Leader Dan Cederberg – members: Bryan von Lossberg, Ginny Merriam, Melinda Mason, Laurie Johnson

- Way to gauge if situation is better or worse
- Develop a measuring tool or index so you know what is and what is not working
- Need professional assistance
- Compile a list of MDAC’s accomplishments
- Interview people downtown to see what has and has not changed

5. Travel and Treatment Fund

Dan Cederberg is interested in creating a Travel and Treatment Fund. The county provides money to people as long as they have a place to go after treatment. The Salvation Army has beds in Seattle and Denver for treatment. More information will have to be gathered to see if this is feasible.

Eran Pehan suggested finding a person from the community to come in and speak to MDAC about the state of treatment in our area. Eran said she will plan on doing this at the January meeting. Michael said that when he spoke to the youth gathered at Caras Park he asked them if they would go to a central location if one was provided to them. They said it just depended upon the weather. Lt. Rosling said this is the time of year that the kids will ask to be arrested to get out of the cold.

6. Discussion of additional members in key areas

Currently working on recruiting new members, but nothing new to report.

7. Comments from Board Members

Respectfully Submitted
 Heidi J. Bakula
 Executive Assistant
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Next Meeting will be February 7, 2016