

**Mayor's Downtown Advisory Commission Quarterly Meeting Minutes
July 10, 2018**

Commission Members in Attendance: Nicole Rowley (County Commissioner), Margaret Borg (Retired Attorney), Sue Wilkins (Missoula Correctional Services), Ginny Merriam (Mayor's Office), Ethan Smith (Police Department), Alex Beal (Municipal Court), Elizabeth Marshall (Palace Apartments), Ryan Boyd (Salvation Army), Theresa Williams (Reaching Home Coordinator), Melinda Mason (Children's Mental Health Bureau) and Dan Cederberg (Downtown Attorney)

Commission Members Absent: Michael Moore (Downtown Business Owner), Tom Snyder (Downtown Business Owner), Bryan von Lossberg (City Council), Lt. Jake Rosling (Police Department), Dave Chrismon (Downtown Ambassador), Eran Fowler Pehan (Housing & Community Development), Keithi Worthington (City Attorney) and Amy Allison Thompson (Poverello Center),

Others in Attendance: John Engen (Mayor), Rod Austin (Parking Commission), Randy Krastel (Downtown Police Officer), Jill Bonny (Poverello Center), Linda McCarthy (Missoula Downtown), Heidi Bakula (Mayor's Office) and John Engen (Mayor)

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of April 3, 2018 will be reviewed at a later date.

1. Public Comment - None
2. Introductions
3. Downtown Update – Discussed under Update and Discussion Topic
4. Update and Discussion Topic

- a. Summer Downtown – Linda McCarthy, Randy Krastel and Rod Austin

Before the discussion took place, Heidi Bakula handed out the Officer Activity Log through June of 2018, and the Community Service Specialist Activity Report through June of 2018 for the commission's review.

Linda McCarthy of Missoula Downtown discussed that panhandling was not just focused downtown, it also affected the surrounding area. She felt that businesses were generally happy and that the panhandling crowd had moved into the evenings. There were still troubled spots downtown, but some areas such as the river corridor, had improved. The police presence has really helped the downtown area, but Missoula Downtown still received regular calls on certain issues.

Rod Austin from the Parking Commission stated that the lower level of Central Park was a problem area but Randy Krastel and his team have really helped.

Linda went on to say that there was a group of people by El Cazidor at night panhandling, especially when there was something going on at the Wilma Theater. Some business owners installed planters, which really discourage people from hanging out there and leaning on the buildings. All in all, the daytime is great but the night time is bad for panhandling.

Elizabeth Marshall stated that the corner of Broadway and Ryman was bad for panhandling and she would kindly ask people to move along. The transients seem to be moving more in groups too.

Randy Krastel, the downtown police officer, expected to see more transients on Higgins, but they really move around. He is making sure that patrols are more spread out over the whole week, plus Friday and Saturday nights. In the past week he has seen younger transients and some of them are with the Rainbow gathering. He also noticed that people seem to be hanging out at the Reserve Street Bridge. Randy is making an effort to try and get to know the transients. They seem to be respectful of him and his contact is positive. Randy is doing all he can to educate the transients on the local laws. Randy knows many of the transients by their first name and can deduce whether they are locals or just passing through. Randy makes an effort to ask people where they are from and why they are in Missoula. He's heard many stories about drugs and alcohol from the transients. Some transients are stuck in Missoula because their vehicle broke down and they don't have any identification to get a bus ticket. Randy is able to help some folks to obtain a simple identification card from the Missoula jail.

Theresa Williams discussed the upcoming Project Employment Connect, which will be occurring on September 28th or 29th in Missoula.

Dan Cederberg wondered if Randy asked transients if they are homeless. Randy said he only usually asks them where they are from. Dan wondered if that question should be asked to provide statistical information. Theresa said that through the Coordinated Entry System questions could be asked regarding homelessness. The system they were using could track people and whether or not they were housed.

Randy asked if other cities transport transients to Missoula. Ethan Smith explained that they do and it's because Missoula is such a compassionate town. This makes it more challenging to deal with. Some people end up thinking all their problems will go away if they come to Missoula. Ethan thought that most people can't leave Missoula because they have a broken down vehicle. He wished that the city and county could partner with a local repair shop to get these people on their way with a minimal charge.

Cola Rowley thought the county might have money available to help and Theresa thought that the Diversion Fund could also help fund the repairs. Ginny Merriam thought maybe several repair shops would do this on a rotation basis.

John Engen said that there was a car club that has an auto mechanic program for high school students. He will look into it.

Ethan further explained that many transients were willing to work in exchange for a vehicle repair. Theresa thought that it would also be a good idea to get donated vehicles for this program since some are so broken down they cannot be fixed.

Ethan stated that Auto Tech on Catlin will do work for the cost of the part.

Mayor Engen said that usually every summer someone wants to schedule an appointment with him to talk about transients downtown and no one has for the past two summers. He wondered how often Randy encountered people with a mental health crisis.

Randy said that he experiences this quite often. He's used his resources at St. Pats and now he's using Community Hospital as a place to take people. He also felt that he needs training to handle mental health situations. He has not had any training for this yet.

Ethan mentioned the training that the Crisis Intervention Team does. The training takes place yearly and Randy needed to get signed up.

Sue Wilkins wondered about training being held more than once per year. Theresa said that it was difficult because agencies have to volunteer staff time for the trainings but she would look into it.

Ginny Merriam asked if Rod Austin wanted to talk about parking. Rod said new gating equipment had been installed at both parking garages and that there was no longer a booth at Central Park. All lanes in and out of the parking garage work with a credit card. At Central Park there is a walk up place that takes cash, but Park Place was strictly credit cards. The Caras lot was permit only and now they use a pass on the windshield that is read automatically as you drive up to the gate. They have a technician installing license plate recognition software in all of the scooters and it has an accuracy rate of 97%. This will allow meter maids to cover more ground quickly and maybe more than once a day. The other project he discussed was ADA parking. They were trying to make more blocks compliant which was eliminating some regular parking since it took one and a half spots for ADA. Handicap people can now park anywhere for free for two hours as long as they have a placard. Once the streets are ADA compliant handicapped people will pay for parking like everyone else. Also, the lot next to Missoula 316 by the pedestrian bridge to the north side will be striped and it will be leased parking by this fall.

Rod further explained that they were looking at residential permit parking in the area of Clay Street and the north block of East Alder. They were looking at the urban core for the downtown masterplan and things were really changing. He also added that he wants to install cameras and new lighting in Central Park.

Respectfully Submitted,
Heidi Bakula, Executive Assistant

Officer Activity Log 2018	<i>Jan</i>	<i>Feb</i>	<i>Mar</i>	<i>Apr</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>Jun</i>	<i>Jul</i>	<i>Aug</i>	<i>Sept</i>	<i>Oct</i>	<i>Nov</i>	<i>Dec</i>	Y-T-D	Same time last YTD
Citizen Inquiries	32	30	39	24	2	103							230	475
Citizen Assistance	26	29	33	13	1	59							161	426
Aggressive Panhandling						3							3	23
Assault	1		1		1	4							7	17
Bike/Traffic	1	2	18			3							24	8
Camping	1	4	5	10		46							66	43
Criminal Mischief						3							3	1
Disorderly	5	4	1			15							25	53
Dogs		5	1	4		5							15	45
Jaywalking			1			2							3	3
Juveniles						3							3	1
Intoxicated Ped in Roadway														10
Littering						1							1	5
Mental Health Crisis	2	4	6			4							16	4
Obstructing														
Open Container	6	1				19							26	91
Pedestrian Interference		1	1		1	10							13	8
Possession of Drugs						3							3	2
Possession of Drug Para						2							2	3
Provide alcohol to Intox Person														1
Probation Violation						2							2	3
Resisting Arrest														
Soliciting in certain places	3			3		1							7	9
Soliciting from roadway														4
Spitting on sidewalks														
Theft	1	1	4			2							8	5
Trespass	5	3	3		1	9							21	41
Urinating/Defecating														10
Warrants	6	4	2	2		12							26	24
Welfare Check	12	4	14	8	3	21							62	29
Other		7	12	2	2	75							98	47
EXTRA PATROLS														
Library	18	15	15	1		19							68	69
Bess Reed Park	8	10	8	1	1	95							123	73
Rattlesnake Foot Bridge	6	7	8			21							42	46
Mission 3:16	14	11	12	1		16							54	32
Little McCormick	12	11	11	1		26							61	52
Northside & Pedestrian Bridge	16	16	16	1		30							79	58
Poverello	7	4	6			44							61	72
Bank Street Parking	9	10	5	2	1	26							53	43
Main Street Parking	10	10	9	2	1	38							70	67
Pattee Street Parking	10	8	4	2		19							43	41
Kiwanis Park	3	7	7	3	1	65							86	69
Mountain Line Bus Terminal	21	9	7	5	1	61							104	168
Madison Street Bridge	10	8		1		59							78	32
Caras Park	8	7	8	2	2	106							133	118
McCormick Park Area	12	7	9	2		23							53	86
West Front Street Parking	2	2	2		1	3							10	35
Other	13	10	11	4		296							334	631
GRAND TOTAL	280	251	279	94	19	1354							2277	3083

CSS Activity Report 2018	<i>January</i>	<i>February</i>	<i>March</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>July</i>	<i>August</i>	<i>Sept</i>	<i>Oct</i>	<i>Nov</i>	<i>Dec</i>	<i>YTD</i>	<i>Same time last YTD</i>
Abandoned Vehicles, etc.	38	20	37	24	21	38							178	66
Animal Control Issues	4	3	4	2	53	27							93	1
Camping in the City	19	16	27	52	55	30							199	847
Citizen Assistance	112	59	76	76	104	81							508	202
Citizen Inquiries	119	91	134	12	199	215							770	246
Crashes	26	12	29	19	37	38							161	37
Evidence/Property/Case Follow Up	27	35	38	57	51	57							265	241
Graffiti		5	1	2	3	2							13	10
Officer Assistance	98	71	101	79	119	108							576	357
Open Container	27	27	28	25	32	47							186	308
Parking	39	38	30	25	35	43							210	740
Ped Interference/Panhandling	30	33	42	22	13	14							154	
Recovered Bikes	11	6	14	16	10	10							67	10
Traffic	18	18	20	24	31	35							146	41
VIN Inspection	7	9	34	43	29	27							149	65
Miscellaneous	6	5	19	16	14	16							76	207
Activities	581	448	634	494	806	788							3,751	3,378
North Park Loop	47	47	49	47	161	145							496	451
South Park Loop	30	37	44	41	152	153							457	355
Library	118	126	89	69	98	53							553	
Rattlesnake Loop	19	16	9	9	1								54	41
Greenough	34	27	24	28	22	16							151	99
Bonner	6	18	15	13	2	24							78	68
Playfair/Splash	2	9	3	12	9	22							57	68
Franklin	32	26	39	38	42	38							215	74
Westside	47	62	71	50	61	68							359	48
Little McCormick	193	248	211	155	179	112							1,098	310
Southside Lions	3	10	17	26	22	7							85	68
Northside	29	38	41	34	29	26							197	50
Poverello Area	169	197	271	172	182	174							1,165	251
North Higgins	203	268	282	227	242	244							1,466	591
Fort Missoula Regional Park	36	39	39	43	43	38							238	
Northside Pedestrian Bridge	151	241	220	115	136	99							962	368
Reserve Street		68	185	158	105	136							652	
Other Parks/Areas			8	15	24	26							73	22
Parks & Trails Patrol	1,119	1,477	1,617	1,252	1,510	1,381							8,356	2,864
Out to Lunch						1							1	
North Reserve														
Orange Street Exit														
Events						1							1	
GRAND TOTAL	1,700	1,925	2,251	1,746	2,316	2,170							12,108	6,242