

**Downtown Business Improvement District of Missoula
Board of Trustees Meeting
Tuesday, February 15, 2021 at 3 pm at the DMP Office (218 E. Main St.) and Zoom**

All Present: Carma Gilligan, Ellen Buchanan, Karen Sippy, Dan Cederberg, Scott Stearns, Dr. James McKay

Absent: Charlie Beaton

Staff: Linda McCarthy, Jack Hall, Bram Moore

Guests: Leigh Ratterman & Charlotte Psick, City of Missoula; Mason Parker, Home Resource

The meeting was called to order by Vice President Stearns at 3:07pm.

Presentation on Proposed Recycling Expansion for Downtown Missoula: Ratterman is seeking guidance on how to get this particular proposal approved. It has to do with bring more recycling to Downtown. She would like to see an increase in recycling services in Downtown. Ratterman explained what Zero Waste Missoula is and what it means to Downtown. Zero Waste Missoula was adopted in 2016 by the County and by the City in 2018. The goal is to reduce community waste 90% by 2050. Approving this initiative would help many in the City's climate action goals. It was observed that recycling bins that are paired next to a garbage bin are being used with very little contamination. Pledge CRO is a program that Home Resource is working on for Missoula businesses to learn how to be more zero waste. At this time, they are only asking for more recycling and they are not quite ready to add compostable bins. The goal is to eventually have compostable bins alongside garbage and recycling. They are asking for 13 recycling bins. Ratterman said that they spent a lot of time mapping out where these bins will be. They will be located in areas where the most people and most recreating would be at. This service will cost \$364 per month for once per week pick up. Once approved they will be seeking sponsorships for the recycling stations. Buchanan asked if they are seeking a new style of receptacle? Ratterman said they are and they want to restyle the ones that are currently being used. Buchanan asked if the recycling bins that we have now are being used correctly. Ratterman said that Ray Kroenke is making this work by hand sorting the current receptacles and bring the recycling to the recycling center. Stearns asked what the proposal expects of the property owners? Stearns said that there will be extra money and labor to make this work. McCarthy gave a brief history of the garbage and recycling service as it is now. Conversation ensued about how to make this plan work with the current receptacles that are in place. McCarthy said that main points for approval are if the BID can review their garbage removal contract with the City.

Approval of January Minutes: Sippy motioned to approve January minutes. McKay seconded and the January minutes were unanimously approved.

Reappoint Charlie Beaton to the DMP Board (2-year term): Buchanan motioned to reappoint Beaton as BID President for two more years. Sippy seconded and the motion to appoint Charlie Beaton as BID President for two more years was approved unanimously.

Financial Review: Hall explained that the Profit/Loss section had been updated. Tax assessments were coming in and pretty standard. The garbage contract is standard as well. Hall added that the DT Police Officer was paid from July to December and prorated for Officer Krastel. A contribution to the Master Plan was made to Parks and Recreation for an environmental impact study. He added that a lot of the garbage contract fees go to the salary for the Maintenance Manager.

Updates on Staffing: McCarthy said that Brandon Dewey has started as the new Program Director. He will be taking over Heritage Missoula, Unseen Missoula and FOT. He will also be helping with the kiosk project. Gretchen Sutherland is the new Membership and Events Director who came over from Parks and Recreation. We hired Denis Higgins as the

new Director of Giving and she will be starting next week. McCarthy added that we will be holding off on hiring for the Business Development position so we can get the new hires up to speed. We will be hiring Facility Staff in April.

Downtown Master Plan Updates:

- **Front & Main Conversion:** Buchanan stated that they have 30% plan reviewed by planners. There are some things to over with MDT. There are some ingress and egress issues at Kiwanis Park. They have found that there is huge restriction with Kiwanis Park. The hope is to have 90% plan done by late Spring because we will be shovel ready by that point and a lot of Federal Grant money will be available then. Buchanan added that because of the participation in the Master Plan that there is a need for protective bike lanes. There will be some parking spaces lost but it won't be as much as we thought there would be. Discussion ensued about the parking situation and the future of it in Downtown.
- **Higgins Analysis:** Buchanan said that there are three different options for design right now and they want to narrow it down to two for public presentation. McCarthy said they were hoping to have public review in March. They are looking at Higgins as two separate sections from north and south of the bridge.
- **The North Riverside Parks and Trails:** McCarthy said that we have had MDF, MDA, Five Valleys Land Trust and Clark Fork Coalition support for a general obligation bond. We met with Mayor Engen and three city council members and they thought it was not a good idea to go forward with this bond at this time. They expressed that there were some things that were more in the forefront at this point. The sentiment is we should wait till 2023 to move forward. Discussion ensued about why this bond did not move forward and when it may come up on the ballot.

Mission Work: Clean, Safe & Economic Vitality: McCarthy said that we had Clean Team members over for cookies and cocoa for Valentine's Day. They have been doing a wonderful job and we wanted to recognize them. The Maintenance crew is business as usual. We are operation with only on police officer. We had a meeting with the GM of the Wren Hotel and they are looking at a June opening. More marijuana dispensaries are opening and there have been some discussion in advocacy about that.

Ratepayer Meeting: McCarthy wanted to check in and see if we want to have it in person or if we should do another Zoom program. We haven't had it in person in two years. Gilligan asked how it was received on Zoom? McCarthy said that it was similar to what we normally have for an in-person meeting. Stearns said that even if we have an in person gathering, we may want to have the Zoom hybrid as well. Based on where COVID numbers are we should consider having an in-person event. Discussion ensued about where we should have it and if we should require masks.

Partner Updates: MDA & MDF: McCarthy explained that the MDA is preparing for event sponsorship sales. We are hosting the Winter Brewfest at the Boone and Crockett Club on February 26. We are trying to bring back membership networking events. Membership is at about 50% collected. We will be sending out reminders soon. The MDA Awards will be rolling out soon as well. The MDF had a meeting yesterday and are looking to see what our fundraising campaign will be this year.

New Business & Announcements: Sippy said that the next Allez! opening will be on March 11.

With no new business or announcements, the meeting was adjourned at 4:45pm.