

Mayor's Downtown Advisory Commission Minutes
June 2, 2015

Commission Members in Attendance: Ginny Merriam (City of Missoula), Keithi Worthington (Deputy City Attorney), Michael Moore (Reaching Home: Missoula's 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness), Rob Scheben (Police Department), Melinda Mason (WORD), Jason Wiener (City Council), Nicole Rowley (County Commissioner), Susan Hay Patrick (United Way), Sue Wilkins (Missoula Correctional Services), Travis Mateer (Poverello Center), Eran Fowler Pehan (Poverello Center), Margaret Borg (Retired Attorney), Jon Wilkins (City Council) and Tara Maus (Montgomery Distillery)

Commission Members Absent: Paige Livingston (One Eleven), Barbara Wickel (Missoula Interfaith Collaborative), Bryan Von Lossberg (City Council), Caitlin Cople, Loreen Hamilton (Salvation Army), Dan Cederberg (Downtown Attorney), Melissa Gordon (Grants) and Laurie Johnson (Downtown Ambassador)

Others in Attendance: Heidi Bakula (Mayor's Office)

Approval of Minutes: The Minutes of April 7, 2015 and May 5, 2015 were approved as submitted

1. Public Comment - None
2. Special Presentations - None
3. Committee Updates

➤ **Crime and Prevention – Keithi Worthington and Rob Scheben**

Keithi Worthington is currently working on the requirements for the “No Sell” list. Commission members discussed possible criteria for the list.

- Use a point system and assign numbers to assaults, thefts, criminal trespass and more serious crimes.
- Should those who purchase alcohol for people on the list be on the list?
- Why limit the list to 15 people, why not use the first 25?

Ginny Merriam stated that cut and dry criteria is important since there needs to be a factual way to generate the list because of the requirements of the ACLU. Keithi explained that anyone can sue the city and she is comfortable with the list. Jon Wilkins stated that even having the list makes the city liable.

Keithi pointed out that 75% of those currently on the list are Native American. Jason Weiner is concerned about this since the list will be distributed throughout the city; however the threshold is those on the list have been ordered not to drink alcohol by the court which is how the list is generated. Keithi stated that those being issued tickets due to alcohol are not a protected class either. Also should they broaden the list to include chronic intoxication or multiple DUIs? Margaret Borg stated that it is important to treat similar circumstances the same.

Keithi pointed out that it is voluntary for businesses to participate in the “No Sell” list program. Alcohol is the crux of the problem and not the behavior. At least an attempt can be made to limit intoxication.

Michael Moore wondered if anyone had ever been sued over a “No Sell” list? Keithi said the only case she knows of has to do with single serve alcohol.

Keithi stated that she would expand the list to 25 people and create specific conditions to be placed on the list. She invited the group to the Crime and Prevention Meeting on Thursday, June 12th at 1:30 pm when they could all review the conditions. The pilot program will include 18 downtown retailers and the retailers on Reserve Street can participate if they would like to. Any questions or inquiries on the “No Sell” list should be directed to Keithi, including people with questions about being on the list.

Keithi asked if someone would have a conversation with the Human Resource Council and the Indian Resource Council about the list. Michael Moore and Travis Mateer volunteered.

Keithi discussed the City Attorney Conference with the City of Billings. Two downtown officers from the City of Billings went to San Diego to learn more about how they handle public intoxication and other related issues. The two officers from Billings said that HOT team members and a mental health representative go out with the police on these issues. The two downtown Billings officers are willing to give a skype presentation for MDAC. The commission decided this would be great and Ginny Merriam and Keithi will work on setting it up for the next meeting in July.

➤ **Real Change Promotion – Ginny Merriam**

The Real Change Committee recently met with members of the Business Improvement District (BID). The Real Change Committee made suggestions to rebrand real change by helping the Homeless Outreach Teams (HOT) with financial support. BID authorized Real Change to look for help to rebrand the committee. Topher Williams of the Downtown Missoula Partnership, Erin Steele of United Way and M&R Strategic Services met with the committee and suggested some market research. Eran Fowler Pehan of the Poverello Center may use some interns from the center to help the committee.

➤ **Built Environment – Margaret Borg & Ginny Merriam**

Nothing new to report except they just found a new fundraising chair for the fundraising committee, her name is Leslie Jensen.

➤ **Human Services – Jason Wiener and Susan Hay Patrick**

Michael Moore has been involved in recent meetings to discuss permanent supportive housing ideas. He took the next step with wet housing by meeting with potential owners and coming away from the meeting with specific tasks. They are currently working towards getting services together with Western Montana Mental Health. He plans to send a letter to the Board of Housing. The State Board of Housing agrees that tax credits can be used for funding. Currently they need to find a partner to pledge a guarantee of rent. Many partners are stepping up to the task and are taking responsibility.

➤ **Updates on Other Projects**

4. Commission Member Comments

Respectfully Submitted,
Heidi J. Bakula
Executive Assistant

Date of Next Meeting
Jack Reidy Conference Room
July 7, 2015