

**Mayor's Downtown Advisory Commission Minutes
November 3, 2015**

Commission Members in Attendance: Ginny Merriam (City of Missoula), Keithi Worthington (Deputy City Attorney), Sue Wilkins (Missoula Correctional Services), Susan Hay Patrick (United Way), Andrea Marcoccio, Nicole Rowley (County Commissioner), Melinda Mason (Children's Mental Health Bureau), Travis Mateer (Poverello Center), Rob Scheben (Police Department), Tara Maus (Montgomery Distillery), Eran Fowler Pehan (Poverello Center), Michael Moore (Reaching Home: Missoula's 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness), Bryan Von Lossberg (City Council), Loreen Hamilton (Salvation Army) and Laurie Johnson (Downtown Ambassador)

Commission Members Absent: Jon Wilkins (City Council), Margaret Borg (Retired Attorney), Dan Cederberg (Downtown Attorney) and Jason Wiener (City Council)

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

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of September 1, 2015 and October 6, 2015 were approved as submitted

1. Public Comment - None
2. Discussion and reporting on work groups

The Commission agreed that each work group needs a group leader.

- **Additional sworn police officer dedicated to downtown** – Group Leader: Dan Cederberg
- **Crisis/drop-in/warming center/detox center with staff** – Group Leader: Michael Moore
 - **Challenges to Detox** – Group Leader: Sue Wilkins
 - Challenges to detoxing and the history of prior facilities were discussed with Paul Myer (former Director of the Western Montana Mental Health Center) and Peg Shea (Addictions Counselor).
 - In 1995 the city applied for a grant to help build Share House.
 - With the cooperation of St. Pat's and Share House the police would take the person to St. Pats where they would be evaluated by an on call nurse to see if they qualified for the detox program. St. Pat's donated the nurse for the project and the nurse coordinated medications.
 - St. Pats would treat and house an individual for six months and then they would be released into Share House.
 - The problem with Share House was that two beds were in each of the two available rooms and men and woman could not share a room.
 - Once the program ended with St. Pat's and Share House people were sent to the state detox center in Galan, Montana.
 - In the next sixty days there could be a new expansion in Medicaid that would include a detox program. The person would have to meet specific qualifications and be on Medicaid. If a person was not on Medicaid they would not qualify and require grant money.
 - Billings uses funds from a tax on alcohol to fund detox centers.
 - Missoula County has \$170,000 which is given to three entities every year. It's possible that funding for detox could come from the county.
 - Sue Wilkins recommended inviting Peg Shea to the MDAC meeting in January to talk about the Turning Point program and the Montana Meth Project.
 - Michael Moore suggested recruiting someone from the Western Montana Mental Health Center to be on MDAC.

- **New Development for Health Care Services – Eran Fowler Pehan**
 - The federal government is instituting a “Pay for Value” program similar to the “Pay for Success” model.
 - This new program looks at the whole picture when it comes to the health of a person which includes non-clinical services such as rent money for housing to prevent frostbite.
 - The plan will first be implemented in 2016 through Medicare, than Medicaid than private insurance by 2018.
 - This program could provide a lot of help for detox services and housing for the homeless.
 - Hospitals will have to collaborate with the entire community to find those that need help.
- **Economic impact of indigence** – Group Leader: Keithi Worthington
- **Advocacy and Education Committee / Dog Licensing / Parking Meter Repurposing** – Group Leader: Andrea Marcoccio
 - Rob Scheben requested 12 of the old meters.
 - Anne Guest of the Parking Commission wants to form a disposition committee to decide who gets the meters and most likely this committee will be the Parking Commission Board.
 - The Business Improvement District (BID) will also be requesting some of the old meters and want to designate someone from BID to be on the disposition board.
 - Travis Mateer, Andrea Marcoccio and Rob Scheben will work on a proposal to acquire some of the meters for MDAC. It makes sense to have the Advocacy and Education Working Group work on this.
 - Laurie Johnson of Missoula Downtown (MDA) will periodically check in with Linda McCarthy about the status of the meters since Linda will most likely be on the disposition board.
 - The new downtown electronic meters will go live by December 9th.
 - Education – Travis Mateer is working on opportunities to talk to students at the university about panhandling.
- **Alcohol retail sales reduction** – Co-group Leaders: Keithi Worthington and Rob Scheben

3. Nomination/election of chair and co-chair

Co-Chairs of MDAC: Eran Fowler Pehan and Bryan von Lossberg – 1 year terms.
Susan Hay Patrick made the motion, Cola Rowley seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Bryan von Lossberg asked that each group get working on their topic as far as next steps. He wants each group to have a structure in place. Also to start thinking of new people that could be appointed to MDAC to further the endeavor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Heidi J. Bakula
Executive Assistant

Date of Next Meeting
Jack Reidy Conference Room, December 1, 2015