

**Business Improvement District**  
**April 9, 2015**

Board Present: Andrew Ferrin, Mauri Novak, Jason Madill, Sheila Rice, Kris Harrison, Garry Hackett  
Board Absent: Travis Neil  
Staff Present: Joan Redeen

- I. **Call to order:** Andy called the meeting to order at 9:06am.
- II. **Guests:** There were no guests present at the meeting.
- III. **BID Board:** Nothing to report at this time.
- IV. **Approval of minutes:** Sheila motioned to approve the meeting minutes from the 3/12/15 meeting as presented. Kris seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

V. **Financials:**

**Monthly Financials:** The Board received the January, February, & March financials. There being no discussion on the financials, Sheila motioned to approve the 1/31/15, 2/28/15 & 3/31/15 financial statements which include the Balance Sheet, P&L, and the P&L/Budget comparison. Kris seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Joan reported that the transfer from the money market was made.

A draft of the proposed Budget for FY 2016 was presented to the board for their review. The Board discussed the possibility of the BID acquiring a vehicle for watering the flowers this summer; options were discussed.

VI. **Grant Programs:**

**CTEP:** Joan reported that Lyle is planning on attending DGFA's next quarterly meeting to provide an update to DGFA's members. She added that Andrew provided an update on his calculations; he has reported that the additional \$10K that the BID has approved may or may not even be necessary. Joan informed the Board that the BID has already approved \$108,137.50 in grants since 7/1/14; the BID has budgeted \$87K for this fiscal year that runs until 6/30/15. Budget amendments will need to be completed before the fiscal year ends.

**Grant Applications:**

Joan provided the board an update on the Center for Mental Health's art grant. She reported that she's helping to coordinate the project: Hotsy donated power washing; McGurran donated the priming. The artist should be painting as soon as the weather cooperates.

VII. **Old Business:**

**Beautification:**

MApril: Joan reported that NWGF coordinates MApril city-wide. Davidson Companies is challenging other downtown organizations to get out and clean their alleys and clean the sidewalks on Central Ave. Davidson thinks they'll be able to have about 100 employees. US Bank, Stockman Bank, Kaufman's, the Chamber, and Mighty Mo have all been asked to participate – other organizations will also be asked (Asurion, Energy West, etc.). The clean-up day will be Friday, May 15<sup>th</sup>.

Parking Meter Art Project: Joan reported that all of the parking meters have been completed and returned. The cart has been built and the project will be assembled and unveiled at Cruisin' the Drag on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Joan reported that flowers should have already been seeded and should be out by Memorial Day.

Joan reported that the holiday décor is almost completely removed.

Andy reported that the speakers have an intermittent problem; Joan will contact Good Vibrations to get the problem resolved.

**BID Expansion:** Joan reported that the protest period ends tomorrow at 5pm. The City has informed the BID that they have received two written protests so far; from property owners who had already voted no. The County Commission has called a special meeting that will be held tomorrow morning, April 10<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner Briggs is attempting to pass a resolution to revoke their original yes votes for expansion from

last November. Joan added that if the Commissioners pass the resolution our attempt to expand will likely be over.

**Downtown Great Falls Association:** DGFA’s quarterly meeting is on April 14<sup>th</sup> at Mighty Mo. First Interstate Bank will have speaking addressing the changes with credit card processing.

Team Trolley: Sheila reported that Team Trolley is working with the Square on an MOU for them to be the ticket seller. All tours will depart from the Square.

**Downtown Partnership:** Sheila reported that the Downtown Showcase is tomorrow; we’ll be providing a tour of downtown success stories and potentials.

**Downtown Safety Alliance:** Joan reported that the next Business Watch will be 5/12: the topic is “Spring Spruce Up” we’ll be discussing clean-up of alleys just before our MApril event.

**Johnson Hotel:** Joan reported that there are three vacancies in the incubator. There was an email forwarded to the Board in regard to the insurance for the association. Mauri motioned to approve the recommendation from the Association for insurance. Sheila seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**Parking Commission:** Joan reported that they are scheduled to meet on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Max Grebe applied to serve on the Commission. Greg Franczyk will be attending the meetings on behalf of DGFA.

**Personnel:** Joan reported that our new employee is doing a great job; many compliments have been received.

**Work Plan 2014-2015:** Joan provided a draft of the 2015-2016 FY Work Plan to the Board. The main change, at this point, is adding Graffiti Removal as a service we provide.

**New Business:**

Coins for a Cause: Joan presented a thank you letter from the YWCA.

Carousel: Jason suggested that Great Falls needs a carousel, like Missoula and Helena. He added that we need ‘a thing’ maybe not a carousel but something to attract families.

VIII. **Public Comment:** No public comment at this time.

IX. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 9:58am.

Andy Ferrin, Chair

Joan Redeen, Staff

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Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_