

Business Improvement District
September 10, 2015

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

- I. **Call to order:** Garry called the meeting to order at 9:30am.
- II. **Guests:** There were no guests present.
- I. **BID Board:** Nothing to report at this time.
- II. **Approval of minutes from 8-13-15 meeting:** Kris motioned to approve the meeting minutes from the 8/13/15 meeting as presented. Travis seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

III. **Financials:**

Audit: The Audit began this week and will conclude in the new few weeks.

Monthly Financials: The Board received the July & August financials via email. There being no discussion on the financials, Kris motioned to approve the 7/31/15 & 8/31/15 financial statements which include the Balance Sheet, P&L, and the P&L/Budget comparison. Mauri seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Joan informed the board that the City has provided an update on the anticipated BID assessments for 2015-2016 due to the Department of Revenue reassessing property values. The City originally estimated our assessments to be \$205,811 and now the City is estimating it to be over \$271,000; our auditor has already noted that we'll need to make budget amendments. It was noted that many property owners are planning to protest their increased property values.

IV. **Grant Programs:**

CTEP: Joan provided an update on the project. Lyle emailed that the state has put a hold on their funding and the project can't go to bid until November which means that construction will not begin until next spring.

Grant Applications:

Times Square: Joan reported that Times Square has rescinded their interior grant, they will resubmit at a later date.

Rocky Mountain Building: Joan reported that she met with the architects. They are seeking funding sources for installation of a new roof and windows, hoping to close it up before winter. They were informed about how BID grants work and that the board might consider partial funding as they progress.

Joan reported that the following grants were paid out: Hotel Arvon interior; Sutton DuBois interior; and Lace Pistol interior.

Joan provided the board with copies of the updated grant schedule.

V. **Old Business:**

Beautification:

Graffiti Removal: Joan reported that Hotsy will be working with Garry to remove the graffiti on the Hastings building.

Parking Meter Art Project: Joan reported that she is working with an Eagle Scout on this project. The goal is to complete six additional meters to install in the garden the Eagle Scout is working on.

Sound System: Nothing to report at this time; Andy is working on this.

Trees: Joan is working with Tillerias on replacing some trees.

Vehicle: Joan reported that the BID has purchased the truck that the Board approved. Mountain Tire inspected the vehicle, free of charge, on our behalf. It was noted that about \$600 of work is needed but some of the issues Mountain Tire discovered may have already been dealt with by Bennett Motors. The board opted out on additional repairs as they felt they were unnecessary with the use proposed of the vehicle, they also opted out on the extended warranty.

Bike Rack: Joan reported that NeighborWorks' new bike rack has been installed, thanks to Travis.

BID Expansion: Joan is working with the City; plans are to have a time frame and suggested area by next month's meeting.

BID Office: Joan noted that Garry had requested this be added to the agenda to discuss the Rocky Mountain building. Joan reported that Andy continues to shop for office furniture.

Downtown Great Falls Association: Joan reported Dancing with the Stars is 9/17. DGFA will be hosting their quarterly meeting on 10/1, in conjunction with Barbara Wold's visit – she will be the guest speaker at their meeting.

Barbara Wold Seminar: Joan reported that Barbara Wold is scheduled to present in Great Falls on Friday, 10/2. She'll be meeting with five downtown retailers and doing a breakfast seminar.

Team Trolley: Joan reported that the trolley had a successful summer; in comparison to last year, very few mechanical issues and ridership was up. Ghost Tours are being scheduled in October.

Downtown Partnership: The next meeting of the partnership is 9/30 and election of officers should take place at that time.

Downtown Safety Alliance: Joan reported that the Great Falls Police Department is holding their first Coffee with a Cop on Friday, 9/11 at Electric City Coffee. The next Business Watch meeting is Tuesday, 11/10 and the topic is Hackers.

Johnson Hotel: reported that one incubator space has been rented by Montana Maid Services. There are two vacancies remaining.

Montana Downtown Conference: Joan reported that she and Andy are registered to attend.

Parking Commission: Joan reported that there was no parking commission meeting in August as there was not a quorum.

National PARK(ing) Day: Joan reported that our 3rd National PARK(ing) Day will be Friday, 9/18 in the southside of the 400 block of Central. Tilleraas is working with the BID on this again.

Personnel: Joan reported that she has hired a gentleman to do trash removal; he was hired through the Center for Mental Health.

Work Plan 2014-2015: Joan reported that the work plan is being worked.

New Business: There was no new business presented.

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

VII. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 9:56am.

Andy Ferrin, Chair

Joan Redeen, Staff

Date: _____

Date: _____