

Downtown Helena Inc
Board Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 10, 2022, 8:30 a.m.
BID/DHI HQ, 330 N Jackson Street

Board Members Present:	Quinn Mahoney, Onawa Linden (Zoom), Deb Whitcomb, Riley Tubbs, Dan Barry, Sarah Hamblock	
Public:	Peter Strauss, Andrea Opitz (Zoom), Betsy McCarthy, John Murdy	
Staff:	Micky Zurcher, BID Executive Director; Jordan Conley, DHI Operations Director	
<u>Agenda</u>	<u>Discussion</u>	<u>Motion/Action</u>
Welcome & Introductions	<p>Conflict of interest</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dan Barry (as landlord) • Riley as continued president <p>Introduction of Jordan Conley as Operations Director</p>	None
Public Comment	<p>Farmers Market (Peter Strauss)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Saturday (5/14): Ribbon Cutting Helena Chamber of Commerce at 9:30 • Double SNAP benefits; WIC • Trade a spot for membership <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rotate out with reserved members from DHI ○ Only two interested parties so far. Expect interest to increase in after May ○ They will need to coordinate with the market manager ○ Must adhere to market policy (grown in MT/add value to MT/vendors from MT). Question whether MT Free Press fits <p>Micky: Comments that city is not participating in DHI meetings; reached out to the city manager to request city representative.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commissioner Dean will attend first 30 minutes of said meetings and will have the ‘city update’ first thing 	Riley and Jordan to create a calendar; coordinate with interested DHI members
Feb and March Financials	<p>Sarah Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Different highlights • \$400 Parks fee • Credit card fees <p>Riley: Very difficult to get solid + consistent quotes; discrepancies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UPDATE (Micky): parks fee is reversible damage deposit for Alive at Five; CC fees are Stripe fees <p>Micky: We can ask Jody to provide an info session re: the balance sheet in June</p> <p>Riley: Pass the budget next meeting according to answers to questions</p>	<p>Micky and Jordan to coordinate with Jody re: info session</p> <p>Micky to find answers to budget line questions (SEE UPDATE)</p>
Approve Feb and March Board Minutes	Riley: Reminder to actually use block captains. Agenda item to be block captain update	Deb Moved, Sarah 2nd, all approved
Open Discussion	<p>Open Container</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Riley: City is as least ready to experiment with it, especially given how well it has worked for Ten Mile. Not as many complaints • Riley: Pushing for the perimeter to extend from the Blackfoot to the Gold Bar. • Sarah: Makes sense to push for ultimate goal/broad perimeter • Questions re: city restrictions/resistance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Limited to walking mall (Quinn) ○ Only events? (Deb) ○ Riley: Following city’s lead; most likely will be time limits (10pm, maybe). Important to stress that priority is good behavior. Unlikely that it will extend to full BID district (especially Great Northern) at this time ○ Riley: Address concerned citizens (i.e. Youth Connections) 	Micky to bring trash issue to BID board meeting

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signage for beginning/end of Open Container areas • Riley: Would be helpful to have more police presence if/when this goes into effect <p>Opportunities for BID and City to Partner</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Downtown police officers (as in Missoula et al.) • Micky: HPD training a downtown officer for Fiscal Year 2024; currently understaffed • Riley: Interest in the BID taking over their district; Talks with city never advance. Goal is for BID to handle permitting/policing/trash • Micky: Trash clearly a problem • Sarah: Lobby BID to pay for all commercial and residential garbage downtown • Micky: This convo is happening; BID is open to this (one entity handling all trash downtown). But city has to create a district • Riley: Convo is always dropped when city manager leaves. Unclear who is actually paying (tenant? Owner?) • Micky: CIP—one of the goals and objectives is to create one streetscape (trash) district • Recycling (Micky): Commissioner Dean wondering about using BID bins to do recycling 	
<p>Events Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Thursday • Spring Art Walk • Alive at Five 	<p>May First Thursday Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Onawa: Brought in Giant Backyard Games + Rented Constitution Park <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Food truck (Eat Greekish) couldn't get in because of parked cars. ○ Without the truck, the event was scrapped ○ Frustrating; Can \$90 fee be carried over to be used in future? • Advertising <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Sarah: Use DHI marketing funds to put ad in paper; Reach out to businesses to see if something is going on (collective ad) ○ Jordan: Businesses can also send me info about specific First Thursday events to repost on social media ○ Feature in the IR is effective (Onawa) ○ Highlight the feature in the IR—make that the ad (Peter) <p>Spring Art Walk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DIY event <p>Alive at Five</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trailer ready to go for season; Same punch points remain (Riley). Bring gloves • Jordan: Pink Patties leaving; possible open spot 	<p>Jordan to look into regularly scheduled First Thursday ad</p> <p>Jordan to confirm with Pink Patties</p>
<p>Membership Update</p>	<p>One new member (Skyre Spin & Sweat)</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>BID Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flower baskets/barrels available mid-June • No façade grants awarded this year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 5 apps but did not meet requirements; 2 invited to reapply next year • Sarah: has BID ever done an infrastructure grant? • Micky: There is a Business Improvement Grant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Have to be in BID district to be eligible ○ On website; Maybe need to streamline guidelines and make more visible 	<p>None</p>

