

**Downtown Helena Inc**  
 General Membership Meeting Minutes  
 Wednesday, July 19, 8:30 a.m.  
 BID/DHI HQ, 330 N Jackson Street

Board Members Present:	Sarah Hamblock, Megan Helton, Matthew Hoffman	
Members/Public:	Bethany Coe, Neil Sauter, Hans Vroom, Kevin Skaalure, Hannah Drga, Brandi Cotton, Sandy Shull, Cindy Loacker, Emily Sedgwick. Zoom: Bethany Flint, Emily McVeigh, Amanda Glass, Riley Tubbs, Savanna Barrett, Amy Barrett, John Murdy, Zach Coe, Brandon Pendergast	
Staff:	John Dendy, BID Executive Director; Jordan Conley, DHI Operations Director	
<b><u>Agenda</u></b>	<b><u>Discussion</u></b>	<b><u>Motion/Action</u></b>
I. Socializing	N/A	None
II. Welcome	N/A	None
III. Update by Commissioner Dean	Commissioner Dean not present.	None
IV. Update from Businesses, Public Comment, New Business welcome	<p>New businesses/members: Primrose and Margie’s vintage.          New member: Eat Greekish</p> <p>Emily from Eclipse Community Yoga: has rooftop yoga and pre-Alive at 5 yoga and other courses.</p> <p>Bethany Coe, Matt Hoffman, Hans Vrooman (Brother’s Keeper): Want to put in a rock garden for sobriety downtown. Bethany will help with info on addiction and mental health services. Would like to put it in Anchor Park. Jordan: Talk to Parks Dept.</p> <p>Bethany Coe: starting a career readiness path for 6<sup>th</sup>- 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Starting this year with 6<sup>th</sup> – expanding through 12<sup>th</sup> over 7 years. Survey available.</p> <p>Savanna (Lasso the Moon) – had some teen shoplifters. Has photos if people want to see them.</p> <p>Neil (Sauter Balloons) – needs sponsors and raffle prizes for balloon festival Oct 20-22. Also needs a places to store the balloons when made.</p> <p>Megan (Stone Tree) – Has availability for an outdoor climbing course Aug 7. Having a gear swap – skis, bikes, kayaks, backpacks, gloves, boots. Drop off Sept 7. Swap Sept 9-10.</p> <p>Cindy (Sweet Bee Vintage) – has a Fall Vintage Market at Helena Civic Center Sept 29-30. Also, there is a new antique store called Bella Peacock going in on Prospect in the former Beds to Go space.</p> <p>Riley (Ten Mile Brewing) – Prickly Pear Block Party with Goldy Vox July 27 5-8.</p> <p>Zach (Foundation for Montana History) – doing 3 tours per week, Thurs-Sunday. Breweries and Brothels doing well. Trail Tour and Miners to Millionaires not as well attended so far. mthistory.org/tours. August, Monday-Friday, bus tours with a drop-off at walking mall. Haunted tours in October 2 days/wk. Myrna to downtown, special one for Halloween. Appraisal Fair coming up.</p> <p>Graffiti locations: No Sweat, Anchor Park tunnel, pawn shop.</p>	<p>Jordan will put them in touch with Parks Director Doug Smith.</p> <p>Jordan will email survey.</p>

<p>V. Staff and Board Updates</p> <p>a. BID</p> <p>b. DHI</p>	<p>a. BID Update</p> <p>i. Billboards: We have a digital billboard saying “Experience Downtown Helena facing south on I-15 between Prospect and Cedar. It will be up for 2 months. We will have the north facing side of the billboard in September and October. The url on the billboard points to the Visit Helena website.</p> <p>ii. Homelessness Guide: Being distributed around the district. Doing a business /vacant space inventory at the same time.</p> <p>iii. Graffiti Removal: Thursday, July 20. John: have you seen any graffiti you’d like removed. Group: No Sweat, Anchor Park tunnel. Is the tunnel a sacrifice zone? Matt/Hans know the person who paints over some of the lewd tags.</p> <p>iiii. Jordan ordered lang banners to put across LCG. John will inventory existing decorations and decide what else to buy. Sandy: can we involve block captains and block participation. Used to do it the Sunday after the fall artwalk. John/Jordan: we can try to involve blocks but we also need professional help to get it done.</p> <p>Other: Public downtown toilet. Commission considering funding tonight. All five recommended some funds. Group discussion regarding problems with public restrooms. Cleanliness, vandalism, crime. John: Yes, there are problems with public toilets but they are not intractable.</p> <p>b . DHI Update</p> <p>i. Events: First summer art walk went well, especially at the block parties at Ten Mile and Park Ave. Coordinated with symphony weekend and Bray Clay tour. Attendance light on 300 and 400 blocks due to lack of critical mass of hosts, artists, and open businesses. Discussion re: retail focus group and list of businesses that are open Sunday and Monday. Brandon has a list of these.</p> <p>1. A@5: Halfway done for the season. Moved to Pioneer Park for next 5. Last one will be a block party near the Gold Bar. Jordan has gotten a lot of complaints about alcohol ID policy.</p> <p>2. Soapbox Derby/Kids’ Fall Fest, Sept 15-16. Ontrack for success. Involving Farm Bureau to make it more agriculturally themed. Please be open and have street sales or other attractions.</p> <p>ii. Still need sponsors and participation for Soapbox.</p> <p>iii. Membership: have more than 160 members with new ones: Primrose, Eat Greekish, Margies.</p>	<p>John will have some of these tags removed. Matt/Hans will talk to the person who paints over the Anchor Park tunnel.</p> <p>John will continue to lead the project and put together funds.</p>
<p>VI. Adjourn</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adjourned ~ 9:45 a.m.</li> </ul>	<p>None</p>
<p>Respectfully submitted: Jordan Conley and John Dendy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Next general meeting on August 16 at 8:30 am.</li> </ul>	<p>None</p>