

**Board of Directors Meeting
Kalispell Tourism Business Improvement District
August 26, 2026
3:00 - 5:00 pm**

Discover Kalispell/Chamber, 2 South Main Street, 2nd floor board room

3:00 p.m. Meeting Called to Order: Bryce Baker, Chair of the Board

3:05 p.m. Hear from the Public - Members of the public are invited to present information related to the Tourism Business Improvement District. Presenters are limited to three (3) minutes each.

3:10 p.m. Event grant application – Montana Dance Association

3:20 p.m. Community Development grant application – New All Terrain Wheelchair for Lone Pine State Park, Montana State Parks Foundation - Megan Buecking

3:30 p.m. Flathead Valley Hockey Association Post Grant Report FY '26

3:30 p.m. Board Action Items

- a) Approval of minutes from July 22, 2026
- b) Acceptance of financials for July 2026

3:50 p.m. Board Discussion

- a) Staff reports

5:00 p.m. Adjournment

Board Packet is available at: <https://discoverkalispell.com/tbid-documents-and-board-packets/>

For Further Information Contact:

Bryce Baker, Board Chair kalispell@myplacehotels.com 406-752-4847

Lorraine Clarno, l.clarno@kalispellchamber.com 406-758-2804

2026 TBID Board Meeting Schedule (subject to change)

January 28	February 25	March 25	April 22	May 27	June 24
July 22	August 26	September 23	October 28	December 9	

Note: Other than the meeting starting time, times listed are approximate and agenda items may be rearranged.
Action may be taken on any item listed on the agenda. Public comment is welcome on all items.



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Kalispell Tourism Business Improvement District
July 22, 2026
3-5:00 pm

Discover Kalispell/Chamber, 2 South Main Street, 2nd floor board room

Board Members Present: Bryce Baker (Zoom), Nathan Black, Britta Joy (Zoom), Zac Ford, Haley Wilson, Skyler Rieke

Board Member Absent: Robert Hall

Guests: Christopher Manley, Jane Corwin, Dennis Span, Laura Baker (Zoom), Henry Mershel (Zoom), Brittani Schue (Zoom), Devon Decaire (Zoom), Allegra Demerjian (Zoom), Haley Burgess (Zoom)

Staff Present: Marisa Mikonis, Lorraine Clarno, Chris O'Boyle, Meche Ek

Meeting Called to Order 3:02 p.m. Bryce Baker, Chair of the Board

1. Hear from the Public – N/A

2. Event grant post report – NW Lacrosse Shootout – Chris Manley

Sarah Taylor was unable to attend, and Chris Manley presented the post-event report on her behalf. The tournament welcomed approximately 45 youth teams and 12–15 high school teams. A dedicated hotel booking link was provided directly to participating teams to encourage overnight stays. Attendance included approximately 2,000 spectators for the youth tournament and 600 spectators for the high school competition. Event proceeds were used to support officiating costs and help offset expenses related to equipment and future event operations. Organizers are also working with counties in Canada to expand participation, with a goal of attracting 15–20 Canadian teams in future years.

3. Event Grant application – Big Sky Reining Classic – Jane Corwin, Dennis Span and Laura Baker

The event has been held in the Flathead Valley for a number of years, with Discover Kalispell first providing support following the COVID-19 pandemic. Spectator admission is free to encourage community attendance. The applicant noted that Majestic Valley Arena's new ownership has resulted in increased rental costs and additional fees for the use of specific areas of the facility. Last year's event recorded 616 entries, representing approximately 200–300 participants.

4. Board Action Items

- a) **Approval of minutes from June 24, 2026**— A motion was made by Zac Ford to approve the June minutes. The motion was seconded by Nathan Black. No discussion. The board approved unanimously.
- b) **Acceptance of financials for June 2026**—Zac Ford presented financials and recommended accepting as presented. A motion was made by Britta Joy to accept the financials as presented. The motion was seconded by Skyler Rieke. No discussion. The board approved unanimously.
- c) **Election of Officers Fiscal Year 2027**- Lorraine Clarno recommends during the transition we maintain the current officers. Britta Joy makes a motion for all three (Bryce Baker, Robert Hall, and Zac Ford) to serve again. Skyler Rieke seconded the motion. No discussion. The board approved unanimously.

- d) **Add Marisa Mikonis as signer to KCVB accounts at FIB and WCU and remove Diane Medler.** Skyler Rieke makes a motion to add Marisa Mikonis as a signer and remove Diane Medler. Nathan Black seconds the motion. No discussion. The board approved unanimously.
- e) **Approval of group grant for Big Sky Reining Classic** – The board discussed the application and expressed concerns regarding the projected number of hotel room nights the event would generate. The application received an average review score of 35.4. While financial assistance was not approved, the board approved an in-kind marketing contribution to support promotion of the event through Discover Kalispell's marketing channels.

5. Board Discussion

- a) **Presentation of FY27 Paid Media Plan by the Abbi Agency via Zoom.**
- b) **RIPE commission and contract**

The board discussed commission invoices received from RIPE. It was clarified that commissions apply only to rooms booked at the standard rate and do not apply to rooms booked as part of special packages, such as ski packages. Prior to signing it was understood that commissions would not be charged in these circumstances. The board noted that the RIPE contract will be reviewed during the August 2027 renewal period. It was also noted that properties that do not pay the required commissions risk being removed from the RIPE website.

- c) **Staff Updates**

The board recognized the new staff structure with Lorraine, Marisa, and Chris and shared excitement for the team's momentum. All three are hitting the ground running in their respective roles and are focused on building strong relationships, advancing current initiatives, and continuing to support Discover Kalispell's goals.

Lorraine provided an update on her transition and onboarding progress, including becoming familiar with contracts, financials, TBID requirements, and bed tax regulations. Marisa and Lorraine have participated in calls with the Montana Department of Commerce and tourism partners. Lorraine also received state tourism projections, which are currently forecasting flat performance for 2027.

Marisa provided an update on the Discover Kalispell Insider Program and the monthly dashboard, including STR reporting, paid media performance, earned media highlights, and airport statistics.

Chris shared an update on hotel and facility outreach, noting that he has visited all board member properties and was impressed with the quality of the facilities. He plans to continue visiting local properties to build relationships with general managers and sales managers. Upcoming efforts include meeting with Helena group contacts, attending the S.P.O.R.T.S. Conference in Virginia Beach, and connecting with Glacier Country.

Meche provided feedback on the Discover Kalispell Insider Program and shared that Visitor Information Center traffic can be unpredictable, with some days exceeding staff capacity.

Meeting adjourned at 4:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Lorraine Clarno

For further information contact lorraine@discoverkalispell.com, 406-758-2804



***SPECIAL MEETING* Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**
Kalispell Tourism Business Improvement District
August 4, 2026
3:00 PM MST

Board Members Present: Bryce Baker (Zoom), Nathan Black (Zoom), Zac Ford (Zoom), Haley Wilson (Zoom), Skyler Rieke (Zoom), Robert Hall (Zoom)

Board Member Absent: Britta Joy

Staff Present: Marisa Mikonis, Lorraine Clarno, Chris O'Boyle,

Meeting Called to Order 3:02 p.m. Bryce Baker, Chair of the Board

Outdoor Media Summit RFP: Lorraine provided an overview of the opportunity, highlighting the event's value as a special event that generates significant public relations exposure and earned media through outdoor content creators. Lorraine also shared that the opportunity has a very quick commitment timeline. Lorraine met with Glacier Country Tourism to discuss financial support and committed to support while also cautioned that the organization has high expectations for host destinations and that coordinating familiarization (FAM) tours would be Discover Kalispell's responsibility. Lorraine noted that her staff would assist with planning and executing the FAM tours.

Board discussed they are in favor of hosting the event with the following dates were identified as unavailable for hosting the event:

- October 23 weekend
- October 1 weekend

Nathan Black shared that the Hilton Garden Inn is prepared to contribute \$15,000 in in-kind support, including:

- Room block of max 110 rooms/night
- Conference ball room/breakout rooms/tables/chairs/linens/set up/breakdown/AV equipment \$2,400 x 4 = \$10,600
- For the Conference execution team: 5 comp rooms/night for 4 nights = \$2,500
- Site planning trip hosting (Oct. 26 - May 27): 4 rooms x 2 nights = \$1,900
- No cash contribution would be provided.

Racene shared that Glacier Country Tourism would contribute \$15,000, noting that the organization would have high expectations for return on investment. Funding through the Visit Montana grant remains unknown at this time.

Nathan Black made a motion to approve the funding package as presented.

The proposed funding package totaled \$65,000, consisting of:

- \$15,000 in-kind contribution from Hilton Garden Inn
- \$15,000 from Glacier Country Tourism
- \$35,000 from Discover Kalispell TBID funds

Haley Wilson seconded the motion. Motion was approved unanimously.

Kalispell Chamber TBID

Balance Sheet
As of Jul 31, 2026

	Total
Assets	
Current Assets	
Bank Accounts	
1010 Checking	124,050.45
1022 Whitefish Credit Union	\$206.77
1021 Savings	37,288.02
Total for 1022 Whitefish Credit Union	\$37,494.79
Total for Bank Accounts	\$161,545.24
Accounts Receivable	
1200 Accounts Receivable	354,101.00
Total for Accounts Receivable	\$354,101.00
Other Current Assets	
1023 WCU CD	114,696.37
12000 Undeposited Funds	0.00
1300 FIB-CD	0.00
Total for Other Current Assets	\$114,696.37
Total for Current Assets	\$630,342.61
Fixed Assets	
1710 Office Equipment	0.00
1820 Web Site Development	67,150.44
1910 Accumulated Depreciation	-26,860.36
Total for Fixed Assets	\$40,290.08
Total for Assets	\$670,632.69
Liabilities and Equity	
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	
2000 Accounts Payable	13,386.02
Total for Accounts Payable	\$13,386.02
Total for Current Liabilities	\$13,386.02
Total for Liabilities	\$13,386.02
Equity	
32000 Unrestricted Net Assets	732,899.14
Net Income	-75,652.47
Total for Equity	\$657,246.67
Total for Liabilities and Equity	\$670,632.69

Kalispell Chamber TBID

Profit and Loss

July 2026

	Total
Income	
4100 Interest Income	16.07
Total for Income	\$16.07
Gross Profit	\$16.07
Expenses	
6100 Administrative/Operations	
6110 Bank Fees	2.00
6130 Directors & Officers Insurance	1,394.00
6140 Office Supplies	150.50
6150 Postage & Copies	16.38
6170 Management Fee	5,000.00
6190 Technology Support	187.50
6199 Other Admin	2,054.61
Total for 6100 Administrative/Operations	\$8,804.99
6200 Personnel (wages)	21,661.82
6300 Agency Services	24,794.41
6400 Research	3,143.85
6500 Website	600.00
6600 Destination Marketing	
6620 Marketing Resources	
6621 Photos/Videos	12,000.00
6622 Online Platforms/Subscriptions	19.99
Total for 6620 Marketing Resources	\$12,019.99
6640 Paid Media	2,500.00
Total for 6600 Destination Marketing	\$14,519.99
6800 Destination Development	
6890 Sales-Trade Shows, RFP Platform	2,143.48
Total for 6800 Destination Development	\$2,143.48
Total for Expenses	\$75,668.54
Net Operating Income	-\$75,652.47
Net Income	-\$75,652.47

**Kalispell Tourism Business Improvement District
Summary of July 2026 Financial Reports**

TBID Checking account balance as of 07/31/26	\$124,050.45
WFCU Reserve account balance as of 07/31/26	\$37,699.32
WFCU CD balance as of 06/30/26 (matures 9/13/26)	\$114,696.37

TBID Account – Expense Summary

- Admin/Operations: wages and insurance; cell phone reimbursement; tech support/email accounts; accounting services; copies/postage; mileage reimbursement; ED and Sales recruitment and postings; legal fees; staff meals at Spartan
- Agency services: Lightning Bug PR; Abbi Agency
- Organizational Memberships:
- Website: Hosting/maintenance
- Research: Blue Room Research quarterly
- Marketing: Paid media; social media admin; tabletop display
- Earned Media/Media events: Chicago media event; May press trip expenses
- Workforce Development/VIC: VIC enhancement design
- Business Development Incentives/Sales: CRM monthly fee; conference historic downtown tour; Spartan expenses (deducted from final payment)
- Community projects: recycling at Spartan (Rotary donation)

TBID Revenue * Actual Q4 revenue = Payment from City was \$352,301 net revenue is a 18.26% increase YoY

FY26 Gross Revenue		% Change net rm nts
Projected \$1,125,000	Actual \$1,225,008	+8.89% vs projected
Q1 JUL-SEP (\$4)	\$429,538 (net 107,322 rm nts; 114,450 gross)	-8% (YoY)
Q2 OCT-DEC (\$4)	\$230,552 (net 57,443 rm nts: 64,179 gross)	10.5%
Q3 JAN-MAR (\$4)	\$212,617 (net 51,720 rm nts: 52,103 gross) *	21.6%
Q4 APR-JUN (\$4)	\$352,301 (net 87,779 rm nts: 92,182 gross)	18.26%
FY25 Gross Revenue		% Change
Projected \$1,171,200	Actual \$1,027,260	-12% vs projected
Q1 JUL-SEP (\$2 & \$4)	\$350,440 (net 116,813 rm nts (\$3/rm))	3.9% (YoY)
Q2 OCT-DEC (\$4)	\$209,070 (net 52,205 rm nts; 59,650 gross)	-3.1% (YoY)
Q3 JAN-MAR (\$4)	\$170,104 (rm nts: 42,526 net; 50,545 gross)	-8.2% (YoY)
Q4 APR-JUN (\$4)	\$297,896 (rm nts: 74,474 net; 81,265 gross)	3.5% (YoY)

Event Grant Application : Entry # 30110**Business / Organization**

Montana Dance Arts Association

First Name

Marisa

Last Name

Roth

Phone number

(406) 250-7324

Email Addressnorthwestballet2@hotmail.com**Website**<https://montanadancearts.org>**Street Address**

718 Logan Street

City

Helena

State / Province / Region

MT

Zip / Postal code

59601

Event Name

MDAA Fall Workshop 2026

Event Description

The MDAA fall workshop is an opportunity for dancers (ages 9 to adult) from across the state to come together for a weekend of dance classes in different styles. The purpose of the workshop is to provide high-quality dance education that would typically not be accessible to dancers in more rural states. Montana lacks a professional ballet company, and is not included on the audition circuit for major dance companies, dance schools, or summer intensives. MDAA provides opportunities for dancers by inviting out of state faculty who do have those dance connections and can help increase a dancer's ability to pursue formal training, higher education, and scholarships for both in- and out-of-state opportunities.

The workshop offers three days of dance instruction in ballet, tap, jazz, hip hop, modern, and specialty styles (such as Irish, African, Salsa, Musical Theatre, and pointe). MDAA hires guest faculty from across the USA who have extensive resumes, including work as professional dancers & choreographers, Broadway performers, company directors, and more. To receive this

Event Grant Application : Entry # 30110

caliber of instruction, dancers would normally have to attend a dance convention in a large city, which costs thousands of dollars, but MDAA brings these teachers to Montana to teach at the workshop for a fraction of the cost to dancers.

The schedule (attached) shows classes across Friday, Saturday, and Sunday of MEA weekend (chosen because school-age students usually do not have school on that Thursday or Friday, which allows for travel to MDAA's workshop location). Classes are 8:30am-4:30pm Friday and Saturday, but end earlier on Sunday to allow time for dance families to drive back home, if they are not local. The schedule includes classes for four levels of dancers across 13 different styles and specialties. We also have an incredible opportunity for dancers who also like to choreograph, (make up their own dances), in the form of the Donna Jewell scholarship. Those interested can choreograph a piece on a group of dancers, present it at MDAA to the panel of guest faculty, and receive feedback about their choreography, which will help them grow as choreographers and dancers. Additionally, the faculty award scholarships to promising young choreographers to help them pursue further opportunities. There is a dance showcase planned for Saturday evening, which is a source of entertainment, as well as an opportunity for dancers to show off what they have been working on. The schedule allows for dancers to maximize instruction time across dance disciplines while reducing time spent transitioning between workshop locations.

Event Type

New to Kalispell

Grant Amount Requested

15,000

If grant is awarded, describe how the Discover Kalispell lodging link will be distributed.

The lodging link will be shared publicly on the MDAA website (montanadancearts.org), our social media pages (Instagram and Facebook), our printed schedule (which is given to every dancer who registers for MDAA), and in our welcome packet, which is given to dance faculty, students, and parents upon arrival. We will also announce Discover Kalispell as one of our sponsors in our orientation/welcome on Friday morning.

Provide detailed Description of how Discover Kalispell Event Grant funds would be used

The grant funds will be used to cover the rental costs of our workshop locations: Glacier High School performing arts hall and gymnasium, FVCC Arts & Technology building, Waccholz College Center gymnasium & yoga room, Waccholz Swank Recital Hall, and a fitness studio at The Summit. These rentals cost anywhere from \$250 to \$1400+ per day, and our workshop spans 3 days. Renting the spaces at Glacier High School will incur additional fees to cover custodial services, which will be billed hourly and are unknown at this point.

The grant funds will also go to the rental costs for dance-specific equipment, including flooring, portable barres, and sound systems. Tap shoes can scuff or damage some types of flooring, which limits our ability to rent certain spaces. To protect flooring and provide a safe surface for our dancers, MDAA is renting a tap floor from Feat x Feet (studio in Whitefish), for a discounted price of \$500. Ballet and pointe work require Marley, a specialized rubber floor that ensures enough friction between the shoes and the floor that dancers will not slip and fall. The Marley and portable barres have to be rented from either MDAA or a local studio (if available), and transported to the workshop location. Sound systems will have to be rented for those locations where they are not built-in, so the additional costs for equipment increase the operational costs of this workshop far beyond what was initially budgeted.

How will this event create room nights in Kalispell hotels from out of area visitors

This event will create room nights in Kalispell because it brings dancers and their families from across the state to Kalispell for 3 days, where they will need some place to stay! Although families may have other alternatives, such as short-term rentals or friends to stay with, MDAA always puts up the guest faculty, MDAA Executive Director, and ballet accompanist at a hotel that is close to the workshop location, for ease of transportation. It is hard to know exactly how many dancers will come for the MDAA workshop, but we are hoping for 100 out-of-town registrants, who may be traveling in groups from their studios, as a family, or as individuals.

Event Grant Application : Entry # 30110

If we estimate that 100 people need 50 hotel rooms, across 3 nights, that is 150 room-nights in Kalispell for out-of-town visitors. This is a conservative estimate, as this is the first time this event has taken place in Kalispell, and we don't know what to expect.

Anticipated number of room nights?

150

How will spectators and participants be tracked - number and where they are from.

Participants are tracked via their registration through JackRabbit (dance studio management software), and this number is verified through dancer check-in, so we can account for those who registered but did not show up. Additionally, dance instructors and MDAA board members count the number of participants and spectators present in each workshop location to ensure compliance with fire code occupancy. When dancers register, they must provide current contact information, which includes where they are coming from. This information is compiled in the JackRabbit software, and can be exported for data-tracking purposes.

If this is a reoccurring event, what data can you provide from previous events.

The registered number of dancers and teachers over the past four years is as follows: 147 (87 from out of town) in Missoula, April 2026. 171 (129 out of town) in Billings, October 2025. 193 (139 out of town) in Helena, April 2025. 187 (161 from out of town) in Great Falls, October 2024. 244 in Missoula (04/2024), 285 in Billings (10/2023), 199 in Butte (04/2023), 214 in Great Falls (10/2022), 173 in Helena (04/2022).

Will assistance be needed in arranging hotel blocks?

Yes

Start date

10/15/2026

End date

10/18/2026

Load-In Start Time

05:00 pm

Load-In END Time

08:00 pm

Street Address

795 Grandview Drive, 745 Grandview Drive, 205 Sunnyview Lane, 375 Wolfpack Way, 1411 1st Ave W

City

Kalispell

State / Province / Region

MT

Event Start Time

Event Grant Application : Entry # 30110

08:15 am

Event END Time

07:00 pm

Estimated Number of Attendance

250

Description of Audience

This event is a workshop, not a performance or conference, so the word “audience” refers to the participants, who are primarily Montana dancers ages 9 – 18 years of age. There is a smaller group of Montana dance teachers and adult students who will also be in attendance, either taking or observing classes. The parents/guardians of the registered attendants also sometimes observe classes during the workshop and will be in the audience of the student showcase on Saturday evening. This audience will comprise dancers and their families, dance educators from around the state, and our local and out-of-town faculty.

Is the Event

Available by Ticket Purchase

How will you provide your Marketing Plan

Attach a Separate File

Name Of Sponsor

Glacier Bank

Description of Sponsor

This is pending, as we have just submitted a sponsorship application and we have yet to hear back.

Name Of Sponsor

First Interstate Bank

Description of Sponsor

This is pending, as we have just submitted a sponsorship application and we have yet to hear back.

Name Of Sponsor

National Endowment for the Arts

Description of Sponsor

According to their website (arts.gov), "The National Endowment for the Arts is an independent federal agency that funds, promotes, and strengthens the creative capacity of our communities by providing all Americans with opportunities for arts participation." Part of MDAA's annual budget comes from NEA grants for dance and performing arts.

Name Of Sponsor

Montana Arts Council

Description of Sponsor

The Montana Arts Council (MAC) is a state agency that is funded in part by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). MDAA received a \$2000 "cultural and aesthetic grant" from MAC for the 26-27 fiscal year, and has been supported by MAC grants for years.

Name Of Sponsor

Montana Cultural Trust

Description of Sponsor

The Montana Cultural Trust is funded by by coal severance taxes paid for coal that was mined in Montana and deposited in Montana's cultural and aesthetic projects trust fund. The purpose of this trust fund is to support “cultural and aesthetic projects including, but not limited to, the visual, performing, literary and media arts,

Event Grant Application : Entry # 30110

history, archaeology, folklore, archives, collections, research, historic preservation and the construction or renovation of cultural facilities.” Part of MDAA's annual budget comes from the Montana Cultural Trust.

Will there be Proceeds from the Event?

No

Will there be food / beverage(s) distributed at the Event?

No

Name

Charlene White

Title

Executive Director

Phone number

(406) 459-6337

Email Address

montanadanceartsassoc@gmail.com

Address

718 Logan Street

City

Helena

State / Province / Region

Montana

Country

United States

Zip / Postal code

59601

Name

Leigh Schanfein

Title

MDAA Professional Member, Board Secretary, & Dance Instructor

Phone number

Event Grant Application : Entry # 30110

(505) 603-2867

Email Address

leigh.bil.dance@gmail.com

Address

498 Greenspring Place

City

Billings

State / Province / Region

Montana

Country

Unites States

Zip / Postal code

59105

Name

Barbara Otey

Title

MDAA Professional Member, Board Member, & Dance Instructor

Phone number

(406) 696-9889

Email Address

baotey@gmail.com

Address

216 Bear Trail

City

Whitefish

State / Province / Region

Montana

Country

Event Grant Application : Entry # 30110

Unites States

Zip / Postal code

59937

How many years has this event been conducted?

55

Consent

I agree to the privacy policy.

to the conditions of this application and will comply with grant requirements if awarded. I verify that the information submitted is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Name / Signature

Marisa Roth

Notes**Admin Notification (ID: 636a46058d425)**

added July 16, 2026 at 10:43 pm

WordPress was unable to send the notification email. SMTP Error: The following recipients failed:
sales@discoverkailspell.com: The mail server could not deliver mail to sales@discoverkailspell.com. The account or domain may not exist, they may be blacklisted, or missing the proper dns entries.

Community Development Grant Application : Entry # 30165**Business/Organization/Individual**

Montana State Parks Foundation

First Name

Megan

Last Name

Buecking

Phone number

4066002544

Email Addressmegan@montanastateparks.org**Street Address**

306 Mill Street/ PO Box 454

City

Gallatin Gateway

State / Province / Region

Montana

Zip / Postal code

59730

Website<https://montanastateparksfoundation.org/>**Project Name**

New All Terrain Wheelchair for Lone Pine State Park

Description

Lone Pine State Park is one of two Montana state parks that offers a complimentary Action Track All-Terrain Wheelchair by reservation. Donated by the Montana State Parks Foundation in 2023, the chair has become a popular addition to the park, making its outstanding trail system accessible to people with mobility challenges. During the summer season, the chair is typically reserved nearly every day, demonstrating both its popularity and its impact on park visitors. By offering this equipment free of charge, the park removes one of the greatest barriers to outdoor recreation: cost. Trackchairs cost more than \$20,000 and are typically not covered by insurance, making ownership unattainable for most people.

During the summer of 2026, the chair is undergoing repairs and has been not available to the public. Through user feedback and a collaborative planning process that includes the disability community, the Montana State Parks Foundation and Montana Fish,

Community Development Grant Application : Entry # 30165

Wildlife & Parks have determined that the best long-term solution is to purchase a new Action Track AXIS40 Trackchair for Lone Pine State Park and to relocate the existing chair to a trail system with less varied terrain. The AXIS40 is specifically designed for steeper, more rugged terrain and will better meet the demands of Lone Pine's trail system. The original Trackchair, once it is repaired, will be relocated to Spring Meadow Lake State Park in Helena, expanding adaptive recreation opportunities elsewhere in the Montana State Park system.

The estimated cost of the AXIS40 Trackchair is \$22,475, and we plan to purchase and install the chair in 2026. Our current funding need is \$6,475.

How will the project enhance the visitor experience in Kalispell

The project will enhance the visitor experience by improving the reliability, safety, and availability of adaptive recreation equipment at Lone Pine State Park. The AXIS40's enhanced performance on steep and varied terrain will provide visitors with a more confident experience while reducing maintenance needs and increasing the chair's availability throughout the season.

The project also demonstrates Montana State Parks Foundation's commitment to the long-term stewardship of accessibility investments by responding to park staff and user feedback and keeping pace with the evolution of adaptive recreation equipment. Together, these improvements will ensure that more people can experience Lone Pine's scenic trails and panoramic views of Kalispell for years to come.

Grant Amount Requested and how will it be used

We are requesting \$6,475 to cover the total expense of the chair (\$22,475). It will be used to purchase the chair.

The Kalispell Community Development grant requires a 50:50 match.

The Montana State Parks Foundation currently has \$16,000 committed to the project and will raise the remaining funds needed to complete the purchase.

We have also been selected as a recipient of Frugals North's "Give Back Burger" program. While the award amount is not yet known, these funds will help offset the Foundation's communications and operational costs associated with purchasing and installing the Trackchair.

As needed, we will continue fundraising and pursuing grant opportunities until the project is fully funded. We are happy to provide updates on our funding partners and project budget as additional commitments are secured.

Please include a basic budget for your project

\$22,475 = total chair cost. \$1000 = total anticipated operational/communication expenses. Montana State Parks Foundation current available funding is \$16,000. The only other confirmed funding source is from Frugals, but the total contribution amount is unknown.

Provide details on requested assistance from other organization(s)

The Frugals Give Back Burger program was a perfectly timed surprise for the Montana State Parks Foundation. We were contacted by the restaurant and offered the opportunity to be a beneficiary of the July and August program, which will donate 100% of the proceeds from "Sweet Heat BBQ Burgers" sold at Kalispell locations during these months. We anticipate that these funds will be modest and will help cover communication and operational costs associated with the project. We have not applied for any additional funding but are happy to provide updates if other funding sources are identified.

Name

Brian Schwartz

Community Development Grant Application : Entry # 30165**Title**

Lone Pine State Park, Park Manager

Phone number

406-755-2706 ext. 3

Email Address

Bschwartz2@mt.gov

Address

300 Lone Pine Rd
Kalispell, MT 59901
United States
[Map It](#)

Name

Jana Swenson

Title

Action Outside, Owner

Phone number

406-221-2526

Email Address

janaswenson@hotmail.com

Address

PO Box 158
Jefferson City, MT 59638
United States
[Map It](#)

Address

United States
[Map It](#)

Consent

I agree

I agree to the conditions of this application and will comply with grant requirements if awarded.

Consent

I verify

Community Development Grant Application : Entry # 30165

I verify that the information submitted is accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Print name of applicant

Megan Buecking

Date

07/20/2026

Notes**Admin Notification (ID: 639b892052064)**

added July 20, 2026 at 1:17 pm

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