



Commission On Aging

www.co.monroe.mi.us/commonaging

A Division of the Monroe County
Community Planning & Engagement
Department

965 South Raisinville Rd.
Monroe, MI 48161

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Jason Berry
Director

Donald Spencer
Chairman

Martin Kaufman
Vice-Chairman

Mary Ann Wertenberger
Secretary

Mary Gantz

Larry Gramlich

Cynthia McIlvain

Wayne Meehan

Paul Simonton

Dave Emmerich

Monroe County Commission on Aging

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

November 13, 2024

Commission on Aging Conference Room

Don Spencer called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

Members present Don Spencer, Martin Kaufman, Dave Emmerich,
Mary Ann Wertenberger, Paul Simonton,
Cynthia McIlvain, Wayne Meehan, Mary Gantz

Members excused: Larry Gramlich

Approval of the Agenda:

Motion to approve the November 13, 2024 Regular Board Meeting Agenda as presented.

Motion by: Paul Simonton **Supported by:** Mary Ann Wertenberger
Motion carried.

Public Comment: None.

Special Presentations:

Frenchtown Center for Active Adults: Paul Iacoangelli, Executive Director

Handouts were distributed. The Frenchtown Center has a tremendous staff. Currently, the membership totals 1,671. The Center has welcomed the growth, but the parking lot and room availability is at capacity on certain days. The program now serves an average of 40 meals per day. Unit numbers have increased to 58,435 during 2023-2024.

During 2024-2025 a roof replacement, building generator, flooring, interior painting, outside storage and exercise equipment designed for mobility-challenged individuals will be completed. The Center will have realized over \$859,000.00 in improvements since 2018.

Monroe Senior Legal Services: Kate Weber, Program Director

Handouts were distributed. Most clients are aged 65-74. Matters handled include: Wills/estates, Advanced Directives/Power of Attorney, eviction, foreclosure, housing, fraud and consumer finance. In 2023, 1,000 clients were served.

Employees receive an Elder Law Training certification. A \$20.00 donation is collected for those under the poverty level. All others require a \$40.00 donation.

Challenges include: costs for attorneys and health insurance. There isn't a lot of grant money for lawyers' salaries. A new landlord will mean a rent increase.



Consent Agenda:

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- A. Approval of the Minutes of the October 9, 2024 Regular Meeting.
- B. Strategic Planning Committee notes of November 7, 2024.
- C. Finance Reports
- D. Correspondence – None.
- E. Formal Agency Reports – None

Motion to approve by: Wayne Meehean Supported by: Cynthia McIlvain
Motion Carried.

Directors' Report:

Jason Berry reported the following:

➤ Common Measures Report

The October Common Measures Reports provide the Commission with the provider's Cumulative Units Reported vs. Maximum, Cumulative Unduplicated Clients Served vs. Anticipated, Actual Expenditures vs. Total Budget, Total Budget Cost per Unduplicated Client, and Actual Revenue vs. Budgeted Revenue.

➤ COA Website Views

The monthly analytics snapshot shows how many hits the COA website received and the categories most visited. During October 2024 there were 700 total views. Transportation was the most viewed.

➤ Waitlist/Service Not Provided Summary

Mr. Berry reported that from September 25, 2024, through October 25, 2024, there were 2 ramps built. There are 29 seniors are on the Project Ramp waitlist. A total of 32 ramps have been built to date.

Old Business: None.

New Business

A. Motion to approve a request from Choices Counseling Solutions for additional funding of \$5,000.00 equaling 33.33 units/hours of service

Motion to Approve: Paul Simonton

Supported by: Martin Kaufman

Roll Call Vote Taken

Martin Kaufman - Yes
Wayne Meehean - Yes
Mary Ann Wertenberger - Yes
Dave Emmerich - Yes
Paul Simonton – Yes

Mary Gantzoz - Yes
Don Spencer - Yes
Cynthia McIlvain - Yes



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Motion Carried.

- B. Motion to approve a request from the Monroe County Opportunity Program to transfer from the Contingency Fund to the Food Program equaling \$20,000.00 equaling 50,000 units at 40 cents per unit.**

Motion to Approve: Dave Emmerich

Supported by: Martin Kaufman

Roll Call Vote Taken

Martin Kaufman - Yes

Mary Gantz - Yes

Wayne Meehan - Yes

Don Spencer - Yes

Mary Ann Wertenberger - Yes

Cynthia McIlvain - Yes

Dave Emmerich - Yes

Paul Simonton - Yes

Motion Carried.

C. Commission on Aging Board Member Resignation

a. Dave Emmerich – District 3

i. Effective December 12, 2024

Public Comment: Stephanie Kasprzak

Many new steps have been taken at the MCOP Opportunity Center. These include: a fundraiser plan, membership fees and a Community Foundation application.

Commission Members Comments:

Cynthia McIlvain: Encouraged Dave Emmerich to keep fighting the good fight.

Marty Kaufman: Paul Iacoangeli has increased male membership at the Frenchtown Center. This is incredible.

Mary Ann Wertenberger: Dave Emmerich keep up the good work.

Dave Emmerich: Thanks to Jason Berry for getting him on the Opioid Task Force.

Paul Simonton: Happy Thanksgiving everyone.

Don Spencer: The Senior and Tech Millage passed. He is a member of the Exchange Club. An inclusive club will be created focused on the needs of all of its members who have disabilities. Did a Press Release to get information out to the public. This Population of citizens when graduating from high school have very little opportunity to participate in the fabric of our society. They are limited on the work they can do, health insurance received and are isolated.

This Club would then tackle barriers. A total of 35 teachers, parents, mental health professionals attended the meeting. Looking for people to join the club with or without disabilities.



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Adjournment:

Motion by: Don Spencer

Supported by: Cynthia McIlvain

Motion Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

**The next Regular Board meeting takes place on Wednesday,
December 11, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. at the Monroe County Commission on Aging,
965 South Raisinville Road, Monroe, MI 48161.**

Ramona Hall, Recording Secretary