



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

734-240-3290

Fax: 734-240-3286
mccoa@monroemi.org

Jason Berry
Director

Donald Spencer
Chairman

Martin Kaufman
Vice-Chairman

Mary Ann Wertenberger
Secretary

Mary Gantz

Madonna Burkit

Cynthia McIlvain

Wayne Meehan

Paul Simonton

Monroe County Commission on Aging Regular Board Meeting Minutes

March 12, 2025

Commission on Aging Conference Room

Don Spencer called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Members present Don Spencer, Martin Kaufman, Madonna Burkit,
Mary Ann Wertenberger, Paul Simonton,
Cynthia McIlvain, Larry Gramlich, Mary Gantz

Members excused: Wayne Meehan

Pledge of Allegiance

Silent Prayer

Approval of the Agenda:

Motion to approve the January 8, 2025 Regular Board Meeting Agenda as presented.

Motion by: Mary Gantz **Supported by:** Cynthia McIlvain
Motion carried.

Public Comment: None.

Special Presentations:

Cheri Boron, LIFE (Living Independence For Everyone)

LIFE has delivered 161,241 meals in 2024. The agency has faced many challenges. Those include an increase in the minimum wage, staffing issues, new sick time rules and rising food costs.

Sandie Pierce, Monroe Center for Healthy Living

Distributed 2024 Year in Review brochure which lists programs and statistics for the Center. Activity units for 2024 totaled 67,241, which is an increase of 5.6% from the 2023 total of 63,675 units. There were 1,522 total clients served in 2024 who were over 60 years of age. 26,087 total noon meals were served 2024.

Beth Berlin, RSVP

Distributed a handout from AmeriCorps. The RSVP has been sponsored by the Monroe Center of Healthy Aging since 2014. RSVP is funded by a federal grant from AmeriCorps and the Monroe County Senior Millage. There are 301 volunteers serving over 40 county non-profits with 59,008 hours served.



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

734-240-3290

Fax: 734-240-3286
mccoa@monroemi.org

Jason Berry
Director

Donald Spencer
Chairman

Martin Kaufman
Vice-Chairman

Mary Ann Wertenberger
Secretary

Mary Gantzogs

Madonna Burkit

Cynthia McIlvain

Wayne Meehean

Paul Simonton

Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the March 12, 2025 Regular Meeting.
- B. Strategic Planning Committee notes of February 6, 2025.
- C. Strategic Planning Committee notes of March 6, 2025
- D. Finance Reports
- E. Correspondence – None.
- F. Formal Agency Reports – None

Motion to approve by: Larry Gramlich Supported by: Mary Gantzogs
Motion Carried.

Directors' Report:

Jason Berry reported the following:

➤ Common Measures Report

The January 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 February 2025 there were 683 total views. Transportation was the most viewed at 210.

➤ Waitlist/Service Not Provided Summary

Mr. Berry reported that from January 25, 2025, through February 25, 2025, there were no ramps built. There are 43 seniors are on the Project Ramp waitlist.

Old Business:

A. Stephanie Kasprzak, Manuel Hoskins, MCOP Opportunity Center

Motion to accept the MCOP Opportunity Center's cost share for food \$2.00 and \$10.00 Membership fee.

Motion to approve: Paul Simonton Supported by: Larry Gramlich

Roll Call Vote Taken

Martin Kaufman - Yes

Larry Gramlich - Yes

Mary Ann Wertenberger - Yes

Madonna Burkit - Yes

Cynthia McIlvain - Yes

Don Spencer - Yes

Mary Gantzogs - Yes

Paul Simonton - Yes

Motion Carried.



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

734-240-3290

Fax: 734-240-3286
mccoa@monroemi.org

Jason Berry
Director

Donald Spencer
Chairman

Martin Kaufman
Vice-Chairman

Mary Ann Wertenberger
Secretary

Mary Gantz

Madonna Burkit

Cynthia McIlvain

Wayne Meehan

Paul Simonton

B. COA Providers Directors

a. Progress Report on Older Adult Needs Assessment – Sandie Pierce

Motion to approve the recommendation of the Strategic Planning Committee which is to not endorse a survey and the COA staff not participate in a monthly press release and a COA provider request the funds from the COA board for the printed material and engage in the distribution of the documents.

Motion to approve: Larry Gramlich Supported by: Mary Gantz
Roll Call Vote Taken

Martin Kaufman - Yes

Cynthia McIlvain - Yes

Larry Gramlich - Yes

Don Spencer - Yes

Mary Ann Wertenberger - Yes

Mary Gantz - Yes

Madonna Burkit - Yes

Paul Simonton - Yes

Motion Carried.

C. Motion to approve the Budget Calendar Proposal

Motion to approve: Paul Simonton Supported by: Larry Gramlich
Motion Carried.

D. Motion to request approve the Commission on Aging Additional Funds Request Document – Jason Berry

Motion to approve: Cynthia McIlvain Supported by: Mary Ann Wertenberger
Motion Carried.

E. Motion to move forward to purchase conference room chairs, tables, and audio equipment from the Contingency Account.

Motion to approve: Paul Simonton Supported by: Martin Kaufman
Motion Carried.

F. Motion from Choices Counseling Solutions requesting additional funding totaling \$28,500.00 equaling 190 units at \$150.00 per unit.

Roll Call Vote Taken

Martin Kaufman - Yes

Cynthia McIlvain - Yes

Larry Gramlich - Yes

Don Spencer - Yes

Mary Ann Wertenberger - Yes

Mary Gantz - Yes

Madonna Burkit - Yes

Paul Simonton – Yes

Motion to approve: Paul Simonton Supported by: Cynthia McIlvain
Motion Carried.



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

734-240-3290

Fax: 734-240-3286
mccoa@monroemi.org

Jason Berry
Director

Donald Spencer
Chairman

Martin Kaufman
Vice-Chairman

Mary Ann Wertenberger
Secretary

Mary Gantz

Madonna Burkit

Cynthia McIlvain

Wayne Meehan

Paul Simonton

Public Comment:

Colin Keehn, United Way Ramp Program presented updates for the program.

Commission Members Comments:

Paul Simonton:

Don't forget to change your clocks

Cynthia McIlvain:

Larry was missed.

Don Spencer:

After attending the Directors Meeting and reading the Directors Meeting Minutes Report, there is a concern about the perception people have when coming to the Board feeling they were on trial. He has been on and front of many boards and this doesn't sit well with him. The Board is committed the senior services that are being provided in Monroe County and would like to compliment the SPC and the Directors.

Don has been on the Board for 3 years Board President for approximately 2 years. The Board reads and asks questions and take their duties seriously. The Board's mission is to recommend the prudent spending of public dollars to promote the health, dignity and independence of Monroe County residents 60 years of age and older. They come prepared and ready to ask questions and listen. On a practical level, the review of proposals are submitted to us as individual board members and the Strategic Planning Committee (SPC), which is made of 4 Board members. It is recommended when Providers come the meeting regarding their budget, the person that works on the budget should also attend. This would help smooth communication with the Board. The Commission on Aging Board is dedicated to the quality of services. Disagreements shouldn't become personal.

To the Board: Our work is going to become more difficult. The ability to work together will be more important than ever. Be very sensitive to the people that are sitting there so that we are directing our dialog to one another, and when appropriate to the Provider so that people don't feel as if they're on trial. We continue to be accountable to our taxpayers. Moving forward, we can all do a better job of working towards a relationship that will pay off for our senior citizens. Providers do an amazing job.



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

734-240-3290

Fax: 734-240-3286
mccoa@monroemi.org

Jason Berry
Director

Donald Spencer
Chairman

Martin Kaufman
Vice-Chairman

Mary Ann Wertenberger
Secretary

Mary Gantz

Madonna Burkit

Cynthia McIlvain

Wayne Meehan

Paul Simonton

Adjournment:

Motion by: Cynthia McIlvain

Supported by: Mary Ann Wertenberger

Motion Carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

**The next Regular Board meeting takes place on Wednesday,
April 9, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. at the Monroe County Commission on Aging, 965
South Raisinville Road, Monroe, MI 48161.**

Ramona Hall, Recording Secretary



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

734-240-3290

Fax: 734-240-3286
mccoa@monroemi.org

Jason Berry
Director

Donald Spencer
Chairman

Martin Kaufman
Vice-Chairman

Mary Ann Wertenberger
Secretary

Mary Gantz

Madonna Burkit

Cynthia McIlvain

Wayne Meehan

Paul Simonton