

**MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP
COMMUNITY RESOURCES COMMISSION
JANUARY 8, 2025
ADMIN CONFERENCE ROOM**

PRESENT: Chair Styka, Vice-Chair Robinson, Commissioner Webster, Commissioner Turimella, Commissioner Langhals, Commissioner Whiting-Dobson, Commissioner Maingu

ABSENT:

STAFF: Human Services Specialist Love

BOARD LIASON: Trustee Wilson

GUEST: Dawn Orr

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

A: Chair Styka called the meeting to order at 6:01 P.M.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Accepted as written.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice-Chair Robinson moves to approve the November 6, 2024, minutes. Seconded by Commissioner Maingu. Motion Carried 7-0

4. OLD BUSINESS

A: Holiday Food Assistance

- 285 families for Thanksgiving and 287 families for winter holidays were supported with meals through the program.
- Volunteers from churches, schools, CRC, businesses etc. supported the program.
- The Meridian Township Department of Public Works said next year at Grange they could help and go door to door to help distribute.

B: Santas First Responders Event

- A great event. Commissioner Webster and Dawn Orr assisted with distributing the food. We distributed 114 boxes of hamburger helper, 190 seasoning packets, 136 spaghetti sauces and 96 boxes of noodles. Donations of food were made by Walmart and Meijer.

C: Intergenerational Art Project

- 108 cards will be made by the elementary school students at Bennett Woods.
- Jen Baker, the art teacher at Bennett, is our contact.
- Commissioner Webster is working with Marsh Point to find a way to hand out the cards to the residents of Marsh Point.
- The cards will be delivered around Valentines Day.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

A: Meeting Resolution

- A meeting resolution document was presented to the Commissioners for review.
- The proposed dates to meet in 2025 are as follows
January 8
February 19 (please note this is the 3rd Wednesday)
March 12
April 9
May 14
June 11
July 9
August 13
September 10
October 8
November 12
December 10
- All meetings will be held at 6:00 P.M. in the Administrative Conference Room at the Municipal Building, 5151 Marsh Road.
- We are scheduling 12 meetings but will only need to meet for 10. We plan to cancel June and August unless there is a weather event that cancels another date.

The motion to approve the Community Resource Commission Meeting Dates for 2025 was approved. Motion Carried 7-0. Chair Styka signed the form.

B: Appointment of Chair & Vice Chair for 2025 (addition to the agenda)

Vice-Chair Robinson opens the nominations for Chair of the Community Resource Commission for the 2025 calendar year.

Commissioner Langhals nominates Commissioner Styka for chair of the Community Resource Commission for the 2025 calendar year. Supported by Commissioner Turimella.

Vice-Chair Robison closes the nominations.

Voice Vote: **YEAS:** Commissioner Robinson, Langhals, Maingu, Webster, Turimella & Whiting-Dobson.
NAYS: None
Motion Carried 6-0

Commissioner Styka accepted the nomination.

Chair Styka opens the nominations for Vice-Chair of the Community Resource Commission for the 2025 Calendar Year.

Commissioner Whiting-Dobson nominates Commissioner Robinson for Vice-Chair of the Community Resource Commission for the 2025 Calendar Year. Supported by Commissioner Langhals.

Chair Styka closes the nominations.

Voice Vote: **YEAS:** Chair Styka, Commissioner Langhals, Maingu, Webster, Turimella & Whiting-Dobson.
NAYS: None
Motion Carried 6-0

Vice Chair Robinson accepted the nomination.

6. HUMAN SERVICES PROGRAM REPORT

- November 2024 and December 2024 reports were presented.
- In November we used 3,926.00 in emergency needs funds.
- We have placed another order for 100 Redi-ride bus passes. We are going through about 25/month.
- In December we used \$2,188.72 in emergency needs funds.
- In 2024 we gave out \$51,088.69 in emergency needs funds to a total of 123 families.
- We received several large donations in the past 2 months.
- We would like to include a group picture of the garden club on our social media to thank them for their donation. Chair Styka will get us a picture to use.
- Specialist Love will send out the power point that Finance Director Ianni had put together for us to outline how our fund works.

7. BOARD LISASON REPORT

- The Board has hired Tim Dempsey as the new Township Manager who will start on January 27th.

- The Board voted to start a new Youth Commission. They will be able to learn about civics and bring youth prospective to the Township.
- The Community/Senior center tasks force continues to meet. Site selection is still underway. There are 2 locations in review. For more information and to view the meetings visit
https://www.meridian.mi.us/government/boards-and-commissions/senior-community-center-task-force/-fbclid=IwZXh0bgNhZW0CMTAAAR16P7M8bG4B1sWmVoTiBosUsXdhATle2ePrZrZTNsg6F559qznRq1CW0ow_aem_JnUDZFi9fWi7HZIGR6MCoA

8. OPEN FORUM

- Did we ever hear if there was a donation taken at the Halloween event at the Police Department? Specialist Love will investigate.

9. ADJOURNEMENT

Commissioner Langhals made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:02 P.M. with no opposition.