

## Monroe County Commission on Aging

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Terri L. Hamad, Director  
Vicky L. Terrasi, Administrative Assistant

Monroe County Commission on Aging  
Regular Board Meeting Minutes  
October 11, 2006  
Sullivan Senior Citizen Center

Chairman Martin Kaufman called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

**Member's present:** Noel Dentner, Nancy Hamman, Paul Iacoangeli, Aleta Jackson, Martin Kaufman, Paul Simonton, John Sledge Jr., Gerald Stone and Loyd Sype.

Chairman Martin Kaufman led the Pledge of Allegiance and silent prayer.

### Approval of the Agenda:

Paul Iacoangeli motioned to approve the October 11, 2006 agenda as presented. Supported by Aleta Jackson. **Motion carried.**

**Guests Present:** Bridget Kyser, Services Coordinator, Caring Alternatives, Inc., Gerilyn Powers, Regional Supervisor, Area Agency on Aging 1-B, Diane Tackett Director Resource Advocacy/Chore/Home Injury Control, Stephanie Kasprzak, Executive Director, Monroe County Opportunity Program, Larry VanWasshenova, Director, Monroe County Senior Legal Services, and Floreine Mentel, County Commissioner and Area Agency on Aging 1-B Board of Directors.

### Public Time/Sullivan Seniors:

Loyd Sype welcomed everyone to the Center.

### Approval of the Regular Commission Meeting Minutes of September 13, 2006.

Motion made by Loyd Sype, supported by Paul Simonton to approve the regular commission minutes of September 13, 2006 as corrected. **Motion carried.**

### Approval of the Financial Statements:

The financial reports were presented. Motion to accept and place on file by Loyd Sype, supported by Aleta Jackson. **Motion carried.**

### Commission Members Report:

Loyd Sype reported that he had a full-body CAT scan that showed that the tumors are shrinking and the little ones are gone. In addition, Mr. Sype reported on a get rich quick scam and a magnet inside the fuel lines.

Nancy Hamman reported that recently her daughter went on a cruise and it is required to submit a debit or credit card so the purchases you make can be put on it. The daughter used her debit card on the cruise. The personal attendant for her daughter had mentioned that she had only five months left and she would be on a vacation of her own. Five months later, the daughter noticed several charges over \$600 on her debit card out of Norway. Luckily, Fifth Third Bank and she had noticed these charges before things got out of hand. Ms. Hamman recommends everyone to be very careful when you hand you debit

or credit card over to someone, including restaurants, and suggests getting a card with a small amount on it when you take a cruise.

**Correspondence:**

The list of correspondence was read.

**Directors Report:**

Ms. Hamad reported that the Personnel Committee of the Monroe County Board of Commissioners met on September 22, 2006, there were several request for staff changes and the committee chose not to move on any of them since many of them are going to effect or impact the county's general fund budget and they did not have all of the requested information in front of them. Despite the fact that our request does not come from the general fund they felt that it would still be better to make a decision on them all at one time. The next Personnel Committee will meet on October 24, 2006, again to consider our staffing request. The meeting is at 8:30 a.m. at the Board of Commissioners chambers. It would be very helpful to have members of the commission attend this meeting since during the meeting in September, the committee was leaning only toward allowing the additional part time staff (clerk) for the office despite having the funds to pay for making the current part time staff full time and then adding the part-time staff. For a complete report, please see attachment.

**Unfinished Business:**

**A. Strategic Planning Committee Report of September 28, 2006:**

Paul Iacoangeli commented that Ms. Hamad is in the process of drafting "service definitions" for the program that the Commission funds. The planning committee will bring them to the full board for approval at the November meeting.

**B. Non-Compliant Reporting Agencies:**

Ms. Terrasi reported that Catholic Charities of Monroe County failed to provide their August 2006 Programmatic report by the 25<sup>th</sup> of September 2006. Since the Commission has not been funding Catholic Charities of Monroe County over the past several months, nothing needs to be done at this time. Ms. Hamad reported that she mailed a letter to Catholic Charities of Monroe County requesting a full accounting of clients served, dates of service and units served that correspond to the January through June, 2006 billings that the Commission has paid.

**New Business:**

**A. Monroe County Opportunity Program Temporary Ramp Request:**

Diane Tackett reported that once again the ramp wait list has grown, they have put up ten ramps this year and the wait list is still at 24 clients needing the devices. Funds for two of the ramps they put up came from program income. Ms. Tackett is requesting the Commissions' consideration of an additional \$10,000 to put up two more ramps this year and to also pay for the cost of two removals. This would leave \$1200 that could cover any additional ramps that might need to be removed this year.

The Commission discussed the request and is greatly concerned with the cost to install and remove the ramps. Ms. Tackett commented that the reason the cost is high to install a ramp is due to the Township codes and Manufactured Housing Community requirements.

The Commission requested that Ms. Tackett provide them with the cost of labor to install a ramp in a Manufactured Housing Community and stick built homes.

Aleta Jackson motioned to grant Monroe County Opportunity Program the request of an additional \$10,000 to install two ramps with the stipulation that the funds be used only for the specific line items proposed. Transfers from the approved line items are prohibited without the advance written permission of the Commission. Any funds not used in accordance with the Directive of the Commission shall be returned forthwith. Supported by Paul Simonton.

**Roll call:**

Gerald Stone – Yes  
Loyd Sype – Yes  
Paul Simonton – Yes

Noel Dentner – No  
Martin Kaufman – Yes  
John Sledge – Yes

Nancy Hamman – Yes  
Aleta Jackson – Yes  
Paul Iacoangeli – Yes

**Motion carried.**

**Public Time:**

Paul Iacoangeli commented that if the Commission has a legitimate need come before them for a service and the funds are available, the Commission should do more to help these people. The ramp issue really needs to be looked at to rectify the tremendous need out there.

Diane Tackett commended the senior millage here in the county because other counties are amazed at the fact that funding to provide this service is coming from a senior millage. The other counties are in the same situation as Monroe County and have a number of clients they cannot serve and are frustrated with that fact.

Martin Kaufman recommended putting the ramp issue on the Strategic Planning Committee's November agenda to discuss and follow-up on.

Commissioner Mentel reported that she has an up coming meeting with Brother Frances out of the Clinton office and Area Agency on Aging 1-B regarding Catholic Charities of Monroe County. Area Agency on Aging 1-B has suspended all funds for Catholic Charities of Monroe County after they could not find any records of the clients they reported they had served.

Commissioner Mentel commented that the County considers the Commissions' budget of 3 million dollars to be peanuts when they look at the County's budget of over 40 million dollars. They do not see the need nor do they understand the workings of the Commission that would require staff increases. She recommends that each board member set up a time to explain and educate their commissioner on what the Commission on Aging does and needs to do in the future. In addition, she commented that the Commission on Aging should not be bound by the same guidelines as the RYE Study because the Commission on Aging is it's own entity. The only hope to get what the Commission on Aging needs is to be separated out of the list of staff positions requested.

Gerilyn Powers reported that she became aware of a communication problem between their resource personnel, referrals to them, and their Call Center at the last Vendor Council meeting. The Call Center was being told that Monroe County is at capacity and that there is a long wait list for services. Ms. Powers looked into it and in fact that was what was being told to the people that were calling referrals in, in all six counties. Ms. Powers developed some new language for the Call Center that is specific to Monroe County, such as they have the Commission on Aging funding available to serve more clients and they are fully staffed and have the ability to serve more people. They could serve an additional 80-100 people that they do not have currently enrolled in their program.

**Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn by Paul Iacoangeli, supported by Paul Simonton. **Motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 2:23 p.m.

The next regular board meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 08, 2006 at 1:00 p.m. at the Water Tower Park Senior Center, 11345 Harold Drive, Luna Pier.

*Vicky L. Terrasi*

Vicky L. Terrasi, Recording Secretary

Director's Report  
October 8, 2006  
Sullivan Senior Center  
1 p.m.

1. On October 24, 2006, the Personnel Committee of the Monroe County Board of Commissioners will meet again to consider our staffing request. The meeting is at 8:30 a.m. at the Board of Commissioners chambers. During the meeting in September, the committee made no recommendations regarding our request however was leaning only toward allowing the additional part time staff (clerk) for the office despite having the funds to pay for it. It is imperative that members of the Commission be present for this meeting to speak to the fact that the Commission has discussed at length the need for the additional staff.