



AGENDA
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF MERIDIAN
Community Resources Commission
September 13th, 2023

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
2. CONSENT AGENDA
3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – July 2023 meeting
4. OLD BUSINESS
 - A. Sparrow Mobile Health Clinic Update
 - B. Five Wishes Program
 - C. Update on Operation Gratitude - Karen Webster
 - D. Culvers Share Night
 - E. Backpacks
5. NEW BUSINESS
 - A. St. Lukes Coat Drive
 - B. Thanksgiving & Holiday Food Baskets
 - C. BASTAS
 - D. Halloween Extravaganza at the Okemos Library
 - E. Fundraising ideas
6. HUMAN SERVICES PROGRAM REPORT
 - A. Grants
7. BOARD LIAISON REPORT
8. OPEN FORUM
9. ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting: October 11th, 2023, at 6:00 P.M.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact the Meridian Township Board by contacting:
Township Manager Frank L. Walsh, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 or 517.853.4258 - Ten Day Notice is Required.
Meeting Location: 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos, MI 48864 Township Hall

Meridian Township exists to create a sustainable community through the most effective use of available resources that achieve the highest quality of life.



A PRIME COMMUNITY
meridian.mi.us

**MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP
COMMUNITY RESOURCES COMMISSION
JULY 12, 2023
SMALL COMMUNITY ROOM: CENTRAL FIRE STATION**

PRESENT: Vice-Chair Robinson, Commissioner Langhals, Commissioner Turimella

ABSENT: Chairperson Styka, Commissioner Maingu, Commissioner Webster

STAFF: Human Services Specialist Love

BOARD LIASON: Trustee Wilson

PUBLIC:

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER
 - a. Vice-Chair Robinson called the meeting to order at 6:08 P.M.

2. CONSENT AGENDA
 - a. New Business 5D: Add 5D: Thanksgiving/Holiday Food Basket Program.
 - b. Old Business 4C: Operation Gratitude postponed to next meeting.
 - c. The Agenda was approved with the above corrections.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - a. Approval of the minutes

4. OLD BUSINESS
 - a. Sparrow Mobile Health Clinic Update
 - i. Grange Acres decided to cancel their Mobile Health Unit times.
 - ii. Working with Cedar Creek to move location there.

 - b. Farmers Market & Protect the Pack
 - i. Discussion took place that Meridian Cares should be present at events targeted towards Human Services, Mental Health.

5. NEW BUSINESS
 - a. Five Wishes Program
 - i. Meridian Cares has coordinated a presentation that will take place at Grange Acres on August 16th at 4:00 P.M. This presentation will be given by Joanne Eason, President of Five Wishes and documents will be given out for free. Flyers are being circulated around the community.

- b. Donations Received
 - i. On June 20th we received \$2,886.00 from the Presbyterian Church of Okemos to be designated to the long-term care of the victims of the Knob Hill fire.
 - ii. In May 2023, Okemos Community Church donated \$667.00 to be used in the emergency needs fund.

 - c. July 25th Grange Acres Carnival
 - i. Grange Acres is putting on a carnival for their residents Meridian Cares will have a table and a small game, sell redi-ride cards, talk about Five Wishes etc. 10-4 P.M.

 - d. Thanksgiving & Holiday food Program
 - i. Meridian Cares can be the Collection point for those with needs for food. We will then distribute to those who have volunteered to meet those needs. Currently creating forms for families and organizations.
6. HUMAN SERVICES PROGRAM REPORT: Human Services Specialist Love presented the May & June 2023 financial report.
- a. Introductions to the Community
 - i. Letters were sent to 41 churches and organizations to introduce Human Services Specialist Love.
 - b. Grants
 - i. Discussion was held about looking into and writing grants.
7. BOARD LIASON REPORT
- a. Today, the Governor removed the asset cap to receive food stamps.
 - b. Saturday, August 26th: Pride Day at Marketplace on the green. 4-11 p.m.
 - c. Community/Senior Center Proposal
 - i. 40,000 square foot building being proposed based on the Howell Community Center.
 - ii. Funding moving forward.
8. OPEN FORUM
9. ADJOURNEMENT: Vice-Chair Robinson adjourned the meeting at 7:03 P.M. with no opposition.

**Meridian Township Community Resources Commission
Needs Fund Report
July 2023**

Cash balance, July 1 52,465.59
Donations received in July 1,484.33

Needs Fund spent in July 5,485.81
Redi-Ride Pass Purchase 90.00
Cash Balance July 31 48,237.81

Donations receive YTD 10,672.86
Funding spent YTD 23,153.33
Funding Budgeted for the Year 50,000.00
% of Funding used for the Year 46%
% of year passed 58%

July PayPal donations received. 148.07
Needs Fund PayPal balance: 7/31 4,853.67

CATA Redi-Ride passes
Distributed July 15
Total distributed YTD 144

Date	Household	Assistance	Amount	Leverage	Authorization
07/05/23	L.S.	Rent	500.00	534.00	Styka
07/05/23	B.M.	Utilities	420.43	1350.00	Styka
07/06/23	L.M.	Utilities	307.54	618.39	Styka
07/10/23	V.J.	Rent	372.54	355.00	Styka
07/10/23	A.M.	Rent	500.00	892.63	Styka
07/13/23	M.W.	Rent	480.50	480.50	Styka
07/13/23	G.K.	Utilities	265.80	0.00	Styka

07/19/23	A.J.	Utilities	98.00	0.00	Styka
07/19/23	J.L.	Rent	500.00	500.00	Styka
07/19/23	D.M.	Rent	500.00	1500.00	Styka
07/26/23	M.M.	Rent	750.00	3196.83	Styka
07/26/23	D.K.	Rent	500.00	1142.00	Styka
07/13/23	M.J.	Rent	291.00	0	Styka
			5485.81	10,569.35	

Other July Notes

- Met with the staff of the Okemos Community Church and Okemos Food Bank to talk about Thanksgiving and Holiday food baskets. Worked with communications to create forms for residents and sponsors.
- Met with Betty from Okemos Rotary to discuss their plans for the holiday food baskets. They will pledge 100 December Holiday food baskets for Grange Acres.
- July 25th had a booth at the Grange Acres Carnival. Had a mini putt game. Nice turn out.
- Worked with Township staff to set a 2024 budget.
- Worked on several poverty exemptions.
- Kiwanis of Okemos and Haslett donated \$2500 to the backpack program. Started shopping for the best prices.
- Set up a Culvers Share night for August 28th.

**Meridian Township Community Resources Commission
Needs Fund Report
August 2023**

Cash balance, August 1 48,237.81
Donations received in August 31 970.91
Donations Back to School 2500.00

Needs Fund spent in August 3,289.49
Redi-Ride Pass Purchase 78.00
Cash Balance August 31 47,897.23

Donations receive YTD 11,643.77
Funding spent YTD 26,442.82
Funding Budgeted for the Year 50,000.00
% of Funding used for the Year 53%
% of year passed 67%

August PayPal donations received. 148.07
Needs Fund PayPal balance: 8/31 5001.74

CATA Redi-Ride passes
Distributed August 13
Total distributed YTD 157

Date	Household	Assistance	Amount	Leverage	Authorization
08/03/23	K.R.	Rent	400.00	400.00	Styka
08/08/23	C.S.	Utilities	304.90	0.00	Styka
08/08/23	L.S.	Rent	500.00	534.00	Styka
08/08/23	T.J.	Rent	217.00	145.00	Styka
08/17/23	N.C.	Rent	500.00	1986.51	Styka
08/17/23	C.A.	Rent	511.95	511.95	Styka
8/22/23	D.M.	Rent	500.00	3586.16	Styka

08/31/23	K.D.	Rent	355.64	355.64	Styka
			\$3289.49	7519.26	

Other August Notes

- Talked with Amy Esterline from *Be a Santa to a Senior* to determine Meridian Cares role for this year. In the past they have done their packing event here. I booked the Town Hall room for December 7/8.
 - o ****Talk about funds to redirect to BASTAS****
- Worked with Treasurer Phil Deschaine and a representative from MiHAF to get up a seminar/application assistance day scheduled for September 6th so our residents can access available funds.
- Worked with St. Lukes to coordinate a coat drive. Municipal Building drop off 9/11-10/6.
- Worked with LeRoy to coordinate efforts to have coat collection at the Meridian Recycling event in September.
- Met with representatives from St. John Food bank and St. Thomas/St. Martha's to talk about new Woodward way development and how we can coordinate assistance.
- August 8th Meridian Cares held a Back-to-School Backpack Packing event. We packed 240 backpacks in under 30 minutes.
- August 16th Meridian Cares hosted a *Five Wishes* presentation at Grange Acres for over 20 residents. President Joanne Eason gave the seminar. Great event!
- On August 28th Meridian Cares participated in a serve night at Culvers. All CRC commissioners were able to attend. The emergency care fund received \$302.57 from Culvers and \$219.24 in additional donations.
- Finalized food assistance forms for residents to request food assistance for Thanksgiving and Winter Holiday's as well as sponsor forms for those who can assist.