

9.12.2020 MINUTES - MDC Circle of Friends

621 Park Avenue, Wilmette, IL

www.mattscircle.org

www.yikesbev.com

2020 Microboard Meeting Dates

November 7, December 5

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85228399094>

NOTE

Liz mentioned a new requirement for Zoom meetings...when you sign in for the meeting, **you will be placed in a 'waiting room'** until Liz lets you in

Present via Zoom: Liz, Jan, Cami, Lee, John, Courtney & Allister

Quality of Life: (Liz)

-Activities

Matt enjoyed completing a 25 piece puzzle and Liz will buy him some more. Matt's hair was cut by Liz, and she said she is getting pretty good at it. Matt is not doing YIKES! due to COVID-19, except for a few drop-offs. Liz was able to get Matt to wear a mask to go to Jewel to get some ice cream. Liz also bought Matt some new pants and underwear.

A big thanks to Lee and family for purchasing a new sofa for Matt's apartment. Everyone loves it, including the staff. Lee shared a wonderful story with the microboard about he was able to purchase the sofa because he said it was going to his autistic brother's apartment. Cheers.

-Update from Colin (via email)

My report is as follows:

Not much about the current outlook for Yikes has changed since June. Matt has been able to make a couple deliveries to Drake Interiors and the Dr. Scholl Foundation but that's been about it. With social distancing requirements in Illinois, it hasn't been feasible for Matt to service any of the vending machines. I'm not sure I see this dynamic changing anytime soon (or possibly at all until we have a vaccine). Locations where there might be few enough people for Matt to go (such as Temple Jerhimah) are almost certainly receiving too little foot traffic to represent anything other than a substantial loss. Conversely, locations that do have enough people to possibly be worth the effort (such as the CAU break room) would require Matt to wear a mask and maintain social distance while indoors (this in my mind represents an almost sisyphian task).

Unfortunately, the quarantine has meant that most of our product in the store room has expired. There are still some cases of Coke and Ginger Ale that are good but unless something pretty unexpected happens with respect to Covid we're going to have lost all the product in the store room by November. Additionally, while we haven't inventoried the machines since March, I'm almost certain that anything that hasn't been sold there will also by now be expired. It's unfortunate but not unexpected.

Considering the circumstances though, Matt does seem to be doing quite well. We've been able to diversify his daily activities to include: basketball and frisbee at the park, swimming, fishing, and long walks from his apartment to his mom's house and back. Additionally, Matt underwent a successful trip to the dentist for oral surgery and while the day of, was a challenge, his recovery since has been pretty seamless.

In short, Covid has been a challenge for all of us but Matt is coping fine and the occasional delivery to John's porch or his Mom's office is helping to keep Yikes on his radar so that when we do eventually go back to the vending machines, it will hopefully not be met with too much resistance.

Church re-opening

-Liz mentioned that the church is re-opening on Sunday, Oct 4th, 2020.

-Dental update

Matt made it through his dental appointments just fine thanks to a patient dentist experienced with working with patients like Matt. Colin was a big help, and Matt is recovering nicely. Matt should go back for dental check-ups every six months. His dental insurance is switched to Blue Cross so a percentage of his visits or work would be covered. Liz said the dentist was amazing.

-Instagram

Courtney is working to combine Matt's YIKES! Beverage Facebook page and his personal page. She will post everything on both Facebook and Instagram. Liz sends photos to Courtney who posts them. **Let's all 'like' Matt's new Instagram page, YIKES! beverage**
Currently there are 5 posts and 12 followers.

Matt's Parties (Courtney)

-Picnic Due to COVID-19, and park restrictions, etc. Matt won't be having a picnic this fall.

-Holiday Open House

A very good discussion took place and the details for the open house will be decided at the Saturday, November 7th 2020 microboard meeting. Among the possibilities discussed were:

--invite a limited number of people to an in-person open house and schedule times for visiting so that Matt isn't overwhelmed and COVID guidelines can be followed. Maybe Colin's band can play at the party? Liz might look into this

--have a Zoom party and let invitees drop by at an appointed time; with Aliister's suggestion that gifts can be sent to Matt ahead of time and Matt can open them when the guests meet with him on Zoom

-Staff appreciation

A few months ago, Nataiya, who also works part-time for Jewish Family & Child Service, mentioned that every quarter, all the staff there is given an appreciation gift and they are well received (these are not big items). She mentioned that perhaps a similar kind of appreciation could be held for Matt's staff.

Nataiya was not at the meeting and Courtney agreed to reach out to Nataiya for specific suggestions as to how this might be implemented for Matt's staff. Jan offered to help Courtney and Nataiya with this.

Stay tuned.

Apartment Repairs (Lee)

Matt has a new sofa, thanks to Lee - which everyone at his apartment loves.

Lee and John continue to work with Matt's apartment manager, who has already agreed, to get his apartment painted as soon as possible.

Treasurer's Report - Thru August 2020

We should be raising about \$2,000 for the remainder of the year to have enough cash going into 2021.

Link to Budget Report

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1qiGAFyDqYFKcG1zdHwvGu7I4oAsdwBEL/edit#gid=1978338560>

Thanksgiving Gratitude Letter (Lee)

Lee and Barb will work on this together and will share their ideas at the November microboard meeting. Lee mentioned that it has to be a compelling ask and could possibly be focused on only Matt's dental costs.

Liz would then have her graphic design guys create a MailChimp evite that would be sent out by Lee and Barb.

MDC Snail Mail List

[MDC Mail & Email List](#)

Who/What/ When

[2020 - Who What When .xlsx](#)