

#### 4.6.24 MINUTES - MDC Circle of Friends

[mattscircle.org](http://mattscircle.org)

[yikesbev.com](http://yikesbev.com)

[YIKES! Instagram](#)

[Amazon Wish List](#)

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Present: Liz, Jan, Barb, Lee, Flip, Allister, Courtney, Alyssa

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#### - 2024 Microboard Meeting Dates

June 8, 2024, August 10, 2024, October 12, 2024, December 7, 2024

- January 25, 2025

#### Future Meeting Dates from Liz

- After receiving responses from the doodle poll, Liz picked dates that the most people could attend (dates listed above)
- She also shared her appreciation to all microboard members for allowing her the ability to talk to everyone about Matt in such a comfortable way.

#### Quality of Life Updates from Liz

- Ludington Trip will be 3 nights/ 2 full days. He is now comfortable with this trip and excited about it. Courtney, Nataiya and her 2 boys will attend with Liz from July 23<sup>rd</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>
- Matt still confirms with Liz every Sunday that he's going to the pool the upcoming week
- The Pizza and Uno party has been very consistent and Matt enjoys this get together! He has even been mimicking the group by doing the dishes!
- The next pizza party will be at Matt's house- he and James will do the ingredient shopping earlier in the week.
- During the summer, Liz is planning to reserve a bbq area at Gillson park for this party
- Monday lunch is still going well with Paul at Whole Foods
- Nataiya is working to reinstate walking in the forest preserve this spring- Matt has loved to splash through puddles and see horses there in the past. Nataiya will introduce the idea at least once, then on a 2<sup>nd</sup> trip they may walk around. It might take a 3<sup>rd</sup> trip to get him comfortable with this activity.

#### Clearbrook Day Support Update from Liz

- The process with Clearbrook has evolved over time (since the pandemic)... Joanell got on the call with the department of disabilities and encouraged that the department needs to be more flexible.
- Liz shared a line item budget with Joanell so that she can take a look at how they can bill differently
- An update should be forthcoming, as they said wait 4-6 weeks for an update

#### Call with JCFS residential update from Liz

- Liz checked in to see if they could continue talking about Matt's needs. She needs to build support more slowly since Matt lives solo. The JCFS residential model is built on 4 people to a house.
- On April 2<sup>nd</sup>, Matt's information was floated by their board and Liz will write to Leticia Carduzzo for an update.
- Discussion ensued re; 4 person homes vs Matt's 1 person home funding. Trying to change Matt's state funding award would be problematic.

#### Staff Appreciation Update from Alyssa

- In February, Alyssa dropped off a Valentine's Day hot chocolate kit for Joshua and the team

#### Action:

-Lee will purchase the next staff appreciation gift around the 4<sup>th</sup> of July and can send to Alyssa for assembly and drop off

#### Apartment Update from Liz

- Nataiya goes to Matt's apartment at least once a month and it is generally in good shape. She makes sure the 'holiday lights' are turned on, which also serve as lights in his dining room and living space.
- Liz mentioned that Matt needs new hypoallergenic pots and pans so she has placed some acceptable ones on [Matt's Amazon Wish List](#)
- Liz and Flip will talk about the pots and pans and the rug for Matt's apartment. Flip and Gabrielle have volunteered to pay for the rug and, maybe the pots and pans.
- Liz also talked about using healthier foods for Matt and is advising his staff about making healthier food choices for Matt when they are ordering for his apartment.
- Liz also mentioned that the vinyl floor tiles are peeling and she will take some photos and share with Lee. However, the toilet is flushing correctly and the cracked window has been repaired.

#### Action:

-Lee to contact the building management to tell them that Matt will be out of town July 23-26, 2024 and that would be a great time to paint his doors

#### Treasurer's Report from John via Liz

- Liz pulled up John's [March 31, 2024 Financial Report](#) and there was a good discussion that took place
- Barb mentioned that she and Cami both gave Cash and other gifts to certain staff for Christmas 2023 and that is not reflected on the financial doc.

#### Action:

-Barb will check-in with Cami about cash staff gifts and report back to John

### YIKES! Update from Liz

- Liz shared that Colin will be leaving his job with Matt at the end of May 2024... YIKES!!!! Because of this, Liz and Nataiya will be working on what comes next with regards to YIKES! and Clearbrook funding for another staff member once Colin is gone. Liz is meeting with Joanelle & Clearbrook to talk about this next week.
- Nataiya's mother-in-law, Gwen, knows Matt very well and maybe she can work with Matt, perhaps starting with going out to lunch with him, or going to the grocery store, so he is used to going out of the house with her. Then maybe they can build up to her doing YIKES! deliveries with Matt. Stay tuned.
- Liz also mentioned that they could use a few more sites for YIKES! deliveries.
- Colin's update included the following:
  - o Matt and I are still servicing the two machines we have in operation on Tuesdays and I believe Matt is still making intermittent break room deliveries to Drake Interiors on Thursdays
  - o I also know that Elizabeth was working on a lead to add a machine in the laundry room at Matt's apartment building but I think unfortunately that didn't pan out

December 2024 is the 10th anniversary of YIKES!