

MEETING MINUTES

Open Board Meeting

Organization	Morris County Collaborative
Date	Wednesday, September 9, 2026
Time	Scheduled: 12:00 p.m. Opening remarks: approximately 12:03 p.m. Adjourned: 1:26 p.m.
Location	MCC / Zoom
Presiding Officer	David Mims
Approval Status	Draft - Subject to Board Approval

1. Call to Order

David Mims opened the meeting with welcoming remarks and an invocation. He emphasized service to Morris County, organizational growth, and accountability. A quorum was confirmed following roll call.

Members confirmed present: David Mims (President), Dr. Hill (Secretary), and Daryl Martin (Treasurer). Amber Key was not confirmed present at roll call; no later arrival was recorded.

Other participants identified in the meeting included Tamara Batie, Mother Mims, Carolyn, Cecilia, and Brandi Cave. A complete guest attendance list was not recorded.

MOTION / ACTION: The September 9, 2026 agenda was approved on a motion by David Mims. The seconder was not clearly identified. Vote: all approved, as recorded in the handwritten notes. Motion carried.

2. Board and Organizational Introduction

David Mims introduced the four current directors and their roles. Two candidates were being considered for a fifth board seat; no appointment was made. Possible future expansion to seven members was discussed without action.

The organizational vision and mission were restated, emphasizing opportunity, a healthier community, and connecting residents with resources, education, and collaborative solutions. The four pillars were reviewed: Financial Well-Being; Physical Well-Being; Mental and Emotional Well-Being; and Social and Community Well-Being. The board reaffirmed transparency and collaboration, with private handling of personal matters when appropriate.

3. Summer Community Impact Report

David Mims reviewed summer activities and partnerships:

- Youth Sports Camp: the agenda listed 20+ children served; the oral report updated participation to more than 50 children.
- Unity in the Community: more than 300 backpacks distributed, with planning meetings and backpack preparation supported at the MCC building.
- Support groups: 15+ families assisted, with continued community outreach and referral partnerships.
- Collaboration with 5+ community organizations, support for mentoring programs, the health fair, and Daingerfield Days, and work on employer and service-provider MOUs.
- School-based suicide-awareness programming was discussed for Daingerfield and Pewitt schools. Dates were not announced.

- Benevolence assistance: the agenda listed 10+ individuals; the oral report estimated approximately 14 to 16 people served during the summer.

Don agreed to resume monthly benevolence reporting on the number of people assisted and services provided, without identifying recipients in the public report. A proposed limit of four recipients per month was discussed. David Mims favored increasing donations and other funding sources, and the matter was identified for the next board meeting. No recipient cap was adopted.

4. Organizational Procedures and Public Communication

David Mims reiterated that building-use and benevolence requests must follow the established application and approval process, including emergencies. Online applications and consistent data collection were emphasized to document outcomes, support impact reports, and strengthen future grant applications. Referral coordination with other organizations and churches was discussed.

The Morris County Strong movement was described as a collaboration of community organizations with its own committee and leadership. MCC would participate and support shared events. The initial merchandise investment was intended to be repaid from sales, with proceeds supporting the movement under its leadership committee.

5. Fall Program and Event Planning

Community Revival and Health Fair

The Community Revival was planned for October 24, 2026, with prayer, fasting, youth and adult participation, and refreshments. MCC also planned to support Martha Baker's health fair at the high school that morning.

Thanksgiving Dinner and Christmas Event

The Thanksgiving Dinner was scheduled for November 21, 2026, and the Christmas event for December 19, 2026. Women of Purpose discussed returning to an on-site Thanksgiving meal instead of food baskets. Staffing, volunteers, partners, budgets, donations, sponsorships, and possible high-school intern participation were identified as planning needs.

MOTION / ACTION: The board approved the Community Revival, Thanksgiving Dinner, Christmas event, and support for the health fair on a motion by Dr. Hill, seconded by David Mims. Vote: all in favor. Motion carried. No additional event budget amounts were stated in this motion.

6. Actions Approved Between Board Meetings

The board reviewed previously authorized actions for inclusion in the official record: camera installation; computer purchase; indoor lock rekeying; Daingerfield Days booth participation and sponsorship; the \$3,000 Morris County Strong merchandise budget; the support-group facilitation contract extension; transition of the Thursday evening group from divorce recovery to Single Parents Support; Program Director promotion; and the \$1,000 revival budget.

MOTION / ACTION: The prior actions were ratified and entered into the board record on a motion by David Mims, seconded by Dr. Hill. Vote: all in favor. Motion carried.

7. Programs and Workforce Development

Morris Move Initiative

Morris Move was presented as a yearlong wellness initiative under Morris County Strong, led by A Gentle Touch Works in collaboration with MCC. The goal was participation by 500 people. MCC's proposed support included volunteers, data tracking, information sharing, and use of the building. Monthly health check-ins with Martha Baker and healthcare partners were discussed to track participation, weight, and blood pressure.

MOTION / ACTION: MCC participation in Morris Move as an organizational initiative was approved on a motion by David Mims, seconded by Dr. Hill. Vote: all in favor. Motion carried.

Fit 101 Program

Dr. Hill presented Fit 101, also called Be Fit 101, as a basic exercise and martial-arts-based wellness program for multiple age groups, including people who use wheelchairs or have mobility limitations. The program was proposed for two days per week at the MCC building in conjunction with Morris Move under Morris County Strong. Specific days were to be determined.

David Mims disclosed that Dr. Hill serves on the board and operates the program. Brandi Cave raised a conflict-of-interest question concerning funding and requested disclosure documentation. David Mims agreed to disclose the relationship and explore funding options. No compensation amount or funding source was approved.

MOTION / ACTION: Fit 101 was adopted on a motion by David Mims, seconded by Don, as named in the handwritten notes. The motion carried with the voting members in favor and Dr. Hill abstaining. Motion Carried.

MCC Trade School Scholarship Program

Tamara explained that board approval was needed to develop the program and support applications for outside grant funding. The discussion described trade training through NTCC and employer partnerships intended to provide interviews or employment opportunities after training. An outdated agenda had been attached to the Zoom invitation; staff confirmed the scholarship item was included in the updated agenda.

The printed proposal described two scholarships per semester and four annually. The oral discussion mentioned a goal of four to five students for the next semester. These figures were not reconciled in the recorded motion, and no scholarship award amount was stated.

MOTION / ACTION: The board approved development of the Trade School Scholarship Program for grant-application and implementation purposes. The handwritten notes identify David Mims as mover and Dr. Hill as seconder. Vote: all in favor. Motion carried. The discussion clarified that this approval supported seeking grant funds; no allocation from the current grant was recorded.

8. Committee Governance

Women of Purpose Committee Charter

Adoption of the revised Women of Purpose Committee Charter appeared on the agenda, including committee responsibilities, board reporting, quarterly reports, and annual projects. The charter was adopted.

9. Facility Security and Operations

Arlo Security System Subscription

The board reviewed Arlo subscription options. Tamara recommended Premium + Emergency Response for unlimited cameras, listed at \$24.99 per month billed annually, or \$299.88 per year. The more expensive plan with continuous 24/7 recording was considered unnecessary.

MOTION / ACTION: The board selected the Arlo Premium + Emergency Response plan at the listed annual cost of \$299.88 on a motion by Don, as named in the handwritten notes, seconded by David Mims. The chair declared the motion carried by affirmative voice vote.

Building Access

David Mims restated the existing requirement for an MCC leadership representative to be present during outside use of the building and explained the lock changes and camera installation. A possible key-card or keyless-access system was proposed for a future agenda. No change to the building-access policy was approved at this meeting.

10. Financial Report

The benevolence report estimated an account balance of approximately \$17,000 and approximately 16 people assisted. The presenter stated that supporting paperwork was not at hand. Three applications had been received that week. The discussion emphasized replenishing funds through grants and donations while following grant restrictions and documenting results.

No separate organization-wide financial statement, detailed budget report, or motion accepting a financial report was recorded.

11. Committee and Program Reports

Women of Purpose

Carolyn reported on the upcoming revival, a prayer walk in planning, a proposed Women of Purpose ball without a set date, continued youth camp activities, bingo participation, and a successful movie day. The committee also supported community outreach, assistance with applications and employment readiness, and connections to support groups. Increased promotion and participation were encouraged.

Youth Programs

David Mims discussed partnering with area schools on future football camps and restoring the basketball portion of the youth camp. He also described plans for a soccer camp involving professional players volunteering their time. The transcript referred to both spring and fall; no final camp date was confirmed.

Peer Support Groups

Cecilia reported on grief and substance-use support, consistent attendance by some participants, home visits, sympathy-card outreach, and Zoom access. Divorce-related concerns could continue to be addressed within the support groups following the Thursday transition to Single Parents Support.

Outreach included CPS, criminal-justice contacts, the local health and human services office, and funeral homes. Cecilia proposed adding MCC support groups to the 2-1-1 resource list and discussed the idea with Tamara.

Support for Young Men and Workforce Access

Mother Mims asked how MCC could engage young men seeking help and provide trained support at the building. Discussion included obtaining information about a men's group associated with Diana and Tristan, training community members to assist with support services, employer referrals, and trade-training opportunities. David Mims described employer-network development and the need to match services to available staffing and resources. No separate program, staffing expenditure, or training contract was approved.

12. Community Comments and Feedback

Participants emphasized a shared vision, mental and emotional well-being, word-of-mouth outreach, and reaching residents where they are. Carolyn encouraged strategic planning and organizational alignment. David Mims stated that a strategic plan and capacity-building work were underway, including an A&M call planned for the following day concerning capacity and community assessment.

13. Announcements

Dr. Hill announced that Morris County youth would attend a three-day camp during the upcoming weekend, focusing on self-esteem and confidence, with check-ins during the school year. David Mims requested photos and videos documenting participation.

14. Action Items and Follow-Up

Follow-up identified during the discussion included:

- Don: resume monthly benevolence reports showing numbers assisted and services provided without public identification of recipients.
- Next board agenda: revisit benevolence funding and the suggested monthly limit, and discuss possible keyless building access.
- Morris Move and Fit 101: coordinate partners, participation tracking, and program scheduling; complete the discussed conflict-of-interest disclosures and explore Fit 101 funding.
- Tamara: continue scholarship program development and grant applications. Cecilia and Tamara discussed pursuing a 2-1-1 resource listing.
- Fall events: continue volunteer, partner, budget, and sponsorship planning for the approved events.
- Tamara: send a save-the-date notice once the next board meeting date is determined.

15. Adjournment

MOTION / ACTION: David Mims moved to adjourn. Don was recorded as seconder in the handwritten notes. The chair declared the meeting adjourned at 1:26 p.m.

Next board meeting: To be determined.

Approval status: Draft - subject to approval by the Board of Directors.

Prepared by: _____ Date: _____

Approved by the Board on: _____