

**Camp Liberty Inc.  
Board of Directors  
Meeting Minutes**

Monday, August 18, 2025, 6:00 – 7:30 pm

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/off-gwnf-wpo>  
Or dial: (US) +1 941-451-2753 PIN: 700665878#

- I. Call to Order and Welcome to new Guests - The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Guests attending were Terri Madden, Ed Madden, and Craig Peterson.
- II. Pledge of Allegiance – Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. Roll Call and Certification of Proper Notice and Quorum to conduct business- All board members were in attendance. Melinda Schwyn, CLI Executive Director, also participated. Proper notice was provided and a quorum was present as required by the bylaws.
- IV. Reading and approval of the July 2025 board meeting minutes - Larry made a motion to accept the July 2025 minutes as presented. Jay seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- V. President's Report: Jeremy Briggs  
Jeremy advised the board that he sent the final version of the logo out to to the board for review. There was a slight issue with the formatting; however, Jay will contact the Irish Hills Print Company to determine if they are able to correct the issue.
- VI. Vice President's Report: Jay Truchan  
Jay advised the board that the Eagle's Nest fundraiser was a success. He expressed that in addition to fundraising, the event provided great community awareness. Per Kathy's request, Jay updated the board that the online run signup is working well.
- VI. Treasurer's Report: Allan Lutes  
Allan advised the board that we have not had any unplanned expenses, and he has reinvested the funds in the Swab account. He had to move \$5,000 from the Swab account to the operating account to cover our shortfall. The YTD financials will be presented at the September meeting. Allan also let the board know that he is not willing to continue doing the CLI bookkeeping after the end of the year. The board will discuss options to handle this workload at the September meeting. Allan urged the board to aggressively seek grant money to purchase CLI. Allan advised the board of a nuisance complaint that was filed with the Department of the State Attorney General. The board expressed their frustration with the totally fabricated statements that were made. Allan will prepare a response. The board agreed that we will retain an attorney if necessary.
- VII. Director Report – Melinda Schwyn  
Terri reviewed the success of Conservation Day. The pond work was completed. Not as much work was done on the food plots as anticipated so we may need to place feed for the September hunt. Melinda updated the board on the plans for Liberty Hunt and the Fall

Event. We will be utilizing food trucks for lunch, but we will provide water. We are still in need of prizes. Melinda also updated the board on the numerous donors that she has been talking to about CLI.

#### VIII. Committee Reports

- A. Community Relations – Kathy Sutherland  
Kathy had a conflict and was unable to attend.
- B. Maintenance and Repair – Ed Madden  
Ed reported that he had been busy with preparations for Conservation Day. Moving forward he will be preparing the property for the upcoming hunts and the Fall Event.
- C. Conservation – Terri Madden  
Terri's updates were provided during Melinda's report.
- D. Fundraising Committee – Chaplain Bob  
Chaplain Bob was not in attendance. Larry updated the board that the donation boxes are generating approximately \$160/month. Terri will send thank you notes to the businesses.
- E. Hunting – Keith Zastrow  
Keith was not in attendance. Craig let the board know that he has 100 acres that he may be willing allow hunters to use if he is able to get comfortable with his liability concerns. Allan will contact our insurance company to determine if our insurance would extend to Craig's property.

#### IX. Old Business

- A. New Logo – covered under the President's report.
- B. Trailer Wrap – The small trailer is ready for the new wrap.
- C. Sale of second trailer – We need to have the wrap removed before we can sell the trailer. Rick will obtain quotes and submit them at the September meeting.
- D. Sign for the fishing pond – Allan will coordinate the sign similar to the sign that we have for Tovar's Terrace. We will dedicate the fishing pond at the Fall Event.
- E. Camp Liberty Apparel – We are set to go once we have the logo finalized.
- F. Vet Fest Report – Suzanne updated the board on the event. It was very well attended, and she was able to share about CLI with a lot of veterans and their families.

#### X. New Business

- A. Hunter Safety – Ed updated the board on some recommendations regarding hunter safety from the class that he attended. Two ideas that will be implemented for this year are obtaining the hunter's emergency contact and to have hunter orange marking on all blinds. Ed plans to suggest additional ideas for improvement as we move forward.
- B. Purchase of CLI – Allan was asked if he would consider a land contract purchase. He said that he would be open to that, but that CLI would have to demonstrate the ability to be able to afford the land contract payments, in addition to, the yearly upkeep and maintenance.

#### XI. Next Meeting & Event Dates

- A. Board of Directors Meeting – Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.
- B. Liberty Hunt – September 12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>
- C. Fall Event & 5K – September 20<sup>th</sup>

XII. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m.

## 2025 Strategic Plan

### PRIMARY OBJECTIVES

1. Camp Liberty will continue to offer programs to serve our veterans, those with mobility challenges, and members of our surrounding communities. We will consider targeting programming to support additional target groups, such as local first responders, who may have interests and needs similar to those we currently serve.
2. Camp Liberty will improve our communications programs to connect with more veterans, community members, and others we can serve.
3. Camp Liberty will launch new efforts to recruit and recognize the volunteers and donors who support Camp Liberty.
4. Camp Liberty will seek out and engage additional volunteer leaders. This includes electing two to four additional members for our board of directors and two to four additional volunteers to actively engage in leading committees or events.
5. Camp Liberty will improve its fundraising efforts by implementing new programs resulting in at least \$150% of the amount raised in 2024. Efforts to find significant grants and funding for the purchase of the property by CLI will also be explored.

### SECONDARY OBJECTIVES

6. Camp Liberty will complete the family fishing pond to include accessible fishing docks, aeration, water level control, structure for habitat, and stocking with fish.
7. Camp Liberty will work collaboratively with the River Raisin Watershed Council on a program, such as a river cleanup on the section of the river on the banks of Camp Liberty
8. Camp Liberty will Investigate opportunities to work with other agencies and groups that will allow Camp Liberty's Trackchairs to be better utilized by those with mobility challenges.

## Camp Liberty Inc. 2025 Calendar

February 22 – 2025 Kick Off and Volunteer Appreciation Event – 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

March 15 – Veterans Pheasant Hunt - 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Camp Liberty, 7044 Kappler Drive, Brooklyn, MI 49230.

April 23-27 – Veterans Turkey Hunt - begins at 1:00 p.m. on April 23 and runs through 1:00 p.m. on April 27. Located at Camp Liberty, 7044 Kappler Drive, Brooklyn, MI 49230.

May 17 - Spring Conservation Day – 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Camp Liberty

June 28 – Summer Picnic - 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Camp Liberty

August 9 – Fall Conservation Day – 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Camp Liberty

Sept 12 – 14 – Liberty Disabled Veterans and Youth Deer Hunt - -1:00 p.m. on Sept. 12 through 1:00 p.m.

on Sept. 14 at Camp Liberty, 7044 Kappler Drive, Brooklyn, MI 49230.

October 16 to 19 – Independence Disabled Veteran Hunt - begins at 1:00 p.m. on Oct 16 and runs through 1:00 p.m. on Oct. 19. Located at Camp Liberty, 7044 Kappler Drive, Brooklyn, MI 49230.

November 19 to 23 – Veterans Firearm Deer Season Hunt - - 3:00 p.m. on Nov. 19 and runs through 1:00 p.m. on Nov. 23. Located at Camp Liberty, 7044 Kappler Drive, Brooklyn, MI 49230.

December 6 – Veterans Pheasant Hunt - 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Camp Liberty