

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

Wednesday, December 10, 2025, 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/biw-fkhz-pqh>

Or dial: (US) +1 475-441-4552 PIN: 643-242-731#

- 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 Pearson.
- 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, with the exception of Jeremy Briggs, 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 November 2025 board meeting minutes – Allan made a motion to accept the November 2025 minutes as presented. Larry seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- V. President’s Report: Jeremy Briggs
In Jeremy’s absence, Jay reviewed the draft of the 2026 Strategic Plan. The board discussed the objectives and several suggestions for changes will be incorporated. Jeremy will provide his report in writing. A vote will be taken at the January 2026 meeting.
- VI. Vice President’s Report: Jay Truchan
The topic of Contractors for Community was tabled until a to be determined date.
- VII. Treasurer’s Report: Allan Lutes
Allan informed the board that overall, we had a very good year. We have operated extremely fiscally responsibly with our percent of money donated used for administration (vs programming) far below non-profit benchmarks. Our cash position is close to the same time last year and our annual giving is over budget. Allan noted that we will need to do a better job of recording in-kind donations in 2026. Allan will provide training on this topic. Expenses are controlled and inline with the budget. Larry made a motion to approve the YTD financials. Rick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
Allan reviewed the proposed 2026 budget. Larry made a motion to approve the 2026 budget as proposed. Suzanne seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Allan informed the board that his expectation is that CLI will raise sufficient funds to purchase the property within two years. In addition, all requests to stay at the lodge must be submitted through Melinda. Dates outside the scheduled outdoor recreation reserved dates will generally, not be available.
- VIII. Director Report – Melinda Schwyn
Melinda provided a recap on the success of the Firearm Hunt and the Pheasant Hunt. All of the hunters had a great time and experienced good fellowship. Allan recognized Craig for

his generosity in allowing CLI to use his land for the deer hunt due to the EHD issues at Camp Liberty. Melinda reviewed the information on the three families that she recommends for our Christmas gift card compassionate care program. Allan made a motion to approve these families for the program. Jay seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously. A Christmas party to assist qualified veterans and first responders will be considered for 2026.

IX. Committee Reports

The Committee Reports were submitted to the board prior to the meeting. The board did not have any questions and expressed thanks for the work that was done.

X. Old Business

- A. Logo Finalization – Rick will send a final draft to the board prior to the January meeting. A vote will be taken at the January meeting.
- B. Small Trailer – Tabled until the January meeting.
- C. Large Trailer – Terri will take the lead on the large trailer.

XI. New Business

None

XII. Next Meeting & Event Dates

Board of Directors – Wednesday, January 14th

XIII. Closed Session

The board discussed the status of the paid employees and the recommendations for new board nominations. Allan made a motion to accept the resignation of Jeremy and Suzanne. Jay seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously. Allan asked that the following statement be included in the minutes:

"Camp Liberty and its board of directors share our sincere thanks and appreciation of Jeremy Briggs and Suzanne Kiser for their dedicated service to our organization. Both have contributed four years of your time and talents as directors. Both have served in officer positions. Your leadership came at a critical period for the charity when the organization and its finances needed to be rebuilt. Your contributions have allowed Camp Liberty to stabilize, return to its core mission, and expand programs for the veterans and first responders we serve. We officially recognize and express our gratitude for your involvement and service."

XIV. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 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