

## **Camp Liberty Inc.**

### **Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

Wednesday, February 11, 2026 · 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm

Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/puo-kpxz-wuv>

Or dial: (US) +1 484 416-2386 PIN: 143-119-250#

#### **I. Call to Order and Welcome to Guests & Board Members.**

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm.

Guests attending were Terri Madden and Ed Madden

#### **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**

Board members in attendance: Jay Truchan, Harry Krass, Larry St. Antoine, Chad Fires, Allan Lutes, Craig Pearson, and Rick Briggs.

Melinda Schwyn, CLI Executive Director, also participated.

Proper notice was provided, and a quorum was present as required by the bylaws.

#### **IV. Review and approve the board meeting minutes for January 2026**

Harry motioned to approve the meeting minutes as presented, and Larry seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

#### **V. President's Report**

- a. Vet Fest will be on 8/1/2026 @ Wastanaw Community College. Need 1 or 2 volunteers to attend and present Camp Liberty. Larry will be there but with the honor guard. No times yet.
- b. Ann Arbor Arms - unable to sponsor Camp Liberty, but will supply 2 coupons. We can set up our tent at their anniversary event.
- c. Clinton Fall Festival, we will set up our tent. 9/25-9/27. Larry will attend.
- d. The VA Honor Guard will give us a \$500 donation in March.
- e. Post 29 in Jackson would like to hold a meeting at Camp Liberty. Their meetings are on the 3rd Thursday of the month.

#### **VI. Vice President's Report – Jay**

- a. Legacy Land Conservancy Update. Meeting with Legacy in a couple of weeks. Still fluid but moving forward.
- b. Consumers Energy Event - north of Jackson is 11/5/26. Need 2 volunteers to attend

#### **VII. Treasurer's Report – Allan**

- a. Appreciated Board Members attending the training session on 2/8/26.
- b. Minimum donations in December and January.
- c. Information has been sent to the accountant for Income Tax, to be completed by 4/15/26.

**VIII. Director's Report – Melinda**

- a. Pheasant Hunt - March 14th. Already to go.
  - b. Open House and Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon - March 15th. Have a draft presentation and video of pictures of last year's events.
  - c. John Smith is donating DJ services for the Open House and the Summer Golf Outing.
  - d. Summer Fundraising event - Golf Outing update.
    - i. Looking for sponsors
    - ii. Will have gift bags for each golfer
    - iii. Chad motioned to charge \$60/golfer since it's only 9 holes. Craig seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.
    - iv. The permit for the raffle needs to be obtained soon.
    - v. We will name the outing 'Liberty Open'.
    - vi. All agree to have inflatables for the gold outing
  - e. Fundraising Opportunities and Consulting
    - i. Discussion on fundraising opportunities
    - ii. Allan recommended hiring a fundraising consultant.
    - iii. Jay motioned to look for candidates for grant writing. Chad seconded. Allan abstains. Motion approved unanimously.
- IX. Committee Reports - Melinda sent out before the meeting for your review. No questions.
- X. Old Business**
- a. Small Trailer  
Allan will pick up and get it to Ann Arbor, and will get it out to Camp Liberty in a couple of weeks.
  - b. Large Trailer. Waiting for the weather to warm up to get volunteers out there to finish stripping the wrap off.
  - c. Ed Madden presented a proposal to have Camp Fireside Chats. The chats will be open to Veterans and first responders. Soup, coffee, tea, and hot chocolate will be served. Harry motioned to hold 2 fireside chats at Camp Liberty 1 on March 14, 2026, and 2nd one on April 25, 2026, from 6 pm-9 pm. Jay seconded. Motion approved unanimously.
  - d. In Kathy Sutherland's absence, Jay and Melinda presented The Liberty Reset: A Wellness Day in Nature for Those Who Serve. This will be open to Veterans and First Responders. Proposed holding the event on Saturday, September 19th. Chad motioned to hold Liberty Reset on September 19th, 2026. Craig seconded. Motion approved unanimously.
- XI. New Business**
- a. New Logo. Jay presented the new logo proposal. The majority were not fans of the new logo with the eagle. Discussion on using the current logo with verbiage updated to 'serving Veterans and First Responders. The current logo has gained a lot of press and visibility over the last few years, and in 2025 in particular. Harry motioned to keep the current logo and update the verbiage to 'serving Veterans and First Responders'. Chad seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

- b. Reviewed Committees and Chairpersons for 2026.
    - i. Volunteer Coordination Chair: Melinda continues to fill this role.
    - ii. Fundraising Chair: Melinda will fill this temporarily until we find someone to chair.
    - iii. Outdoor Recreation Chair and Conservation Chair. Harry motioned to combine Outdoor Recreation and Conservation. Craig seconded. Motion approved unanimously. Ed Madden agreed to chair. Keith Zastrow will be working with Ed for the bird hunts.
    - iv. Kathy Sutherland remains the Community Relations Chair
    - v. Ed Madden remains the Maintenance Chair
  - c. Board of Directors - Volunteer Service. Discussed a Board member acting as a Volunteer Host. No objection to a Board Member also being a Volunteer Host and staying at the Lodge while hosting an event. The rooms need to be for the guests first.
    - i. Chad motioned that if there is room, a host can stay at the lodge. Jay seconded. Harry abstained. Motion carried unanimously.
    - ii. The Hunting Committee (Outdoor Recreation Committee) needs to review the hunting policies.
  - d. Napoleon's Wellness and Career Day is on March 18th. Harry will attend. Craig motioned to give \$50 to Napoleon's Wellness and Career Day. Harry seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- XII. Upcoming Meetings & Events
- a. Board of Directors – Wednesday, March 11th, Wednesday April 15th (moved from April 8th)
  - b. Pheasant Hunt – Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>
  - c. Open House and Volunteer Appreciation Event – Sunday, March 15th
- XIII. Chad motioned to adjourn at 7:53 pm. Jay seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**2026 Camp Liberty Event Calendar**

<b>March 14</b>	Pheasant Hunt - 8:00 am to 4:00 pm
<b>March 15</b>	2026 Open House and Volunteer Appreciation Event
<b>April 22-26</b>	Veterans Turkey Hunt
<b>May 16</b>	Spring Conservation Day
<b>June 13</b>	Summer Fundraising Event – Golf Outing @ Gauci Golf Resort 8421 Sports Park Dr, Onsted, MI
<b>August 22</b>	Fall Conservation Day
<b>September 11-13</b>	Liberty Disabled Veterans and Youth Deer Hunt sponsored by American Legion, Post 46, Ann Arbor, MI
<b>September 26</b>	Fall Event and 5K Trail Run / Nature Walk
<b>October 15-18</b>	Independent Disabled Veteran Hunt
<b>November 18-22</b>	Veterans Firearm Deer Season Hunt

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