

7/15/25 DMCC Meeting Minutes

- Financial report presented by Linda shows healthy budget management, with clear starting and ending balances for all members to review.
- Joyce's committee dedicated four hours to beautification efforts, focusing on enhancing the community center's appearance.
- Stitch and Bitch event sees consistent attendance of 14 participants per session, showcasing growing interest in crafting activities within the community.
- Planning underway for the Hot Pepper Festival on October 4th, with Mike coordinating safety preparations and an estimated 100+ attendees expected.
- Proposed clothing exchange event for September aims to recycle winter apparel, aligning with the food pantry schedule for increased community engagement.
- Chainsaw safety class scheduled for August 23rd has 15 participants registered and will be led by a Penn State Extension instructor.
- Unanimous approval for bylaws amendment requires all board members to be tax-paying residents of Damascus Township, with new candidates identified for selection.
- The township building painting initiative faced setbacks due to color preference disagreements; further discussions on this will resume after Linda's return.
- Repairs to kitchen facilities have been completed, and enhancements, including a new monitor setup, are underway to improve meeting experiences.
- Monthly line dancing sessions are being proposed as a new community activity, utilizing a YouTube-based instruction approach for participants.

Notes

Opening and Financial Report ([00:00](#) - [02:45](#))

- Meeting opened with Pledge of Allegiance led by Alex.
- Linda is traveling to Australia until the 4th, left financial reports with starting and ending balances for review.
- Financial report distributed to members prior to meeting containing all budget numbers.

Town Beautification Committee Report ([02:45](#) - [05:00](#))

- Joyce reported on town beautification efforts, spent approximately 4 hours on one day working on beautification.
- New project identified: property to the right when entering community center driveway needs attention and cleanup.
- Committee actively working on making the community center area more attractive.

Stitch and Bitch Monthly Event ([05:00](#) - [07:08](#))

- Michael reported 3 months of successful monthly events, first Monday of each month [6:30-8:00](#) PM.
- Consistent attendance of approximately 14 people each session.

- Activities include knitting, crocheting, needlepoint, sewing, and yarn spinning.
- Event gaining popularity with diverse craft participation.

Hot Pepper Festival Planning (October 4th) ([07:08](#) - [17:21](#))

- Robust committee formed with monthly meetings to plan October 4th festival.
- Three main events planned: Flight of Peppers, Pepper Potluck, and Pepper Trivia Contest.
- Gazebo reserved for the event date.
- Paula managing pepper potluck with 4 people already signed up, seeking more participants for pepper dish samples.
- Anna coordinating Flight of Peppers with pepper growers providing varieties from mild to very hot.
- Alex serving as coordination and safety department for the event.
- 50/50 raffle planned, seeking volunteer coordinator (preferably Jim who handles pancake breakfast raffles).
- Anticipating 100+ attendees with sample servings sized for 4-ounce cups.
- Andrea created event logo to be revealed at next meeting.
- Steve Adams volunteered to make chili for the event.

Cancelled/Postponed Events ([17:21](#) - [20:24](#))

- Amphitheater events cancelled for this year.
- Kids craft day was rained out, may incorporate into Halloween trunk-or-treat event.

Clothes and Object Exchange Event ([20:24](#) - [27:01](#))

- Tracy proposing seasonal clothing exchange (spring and fall) rather than weekly Saturday events.
- Focus on winter items: coats, boots, gloves for September event.
- Coordinating with food pantry schedule (third Thursday of month) for maximum community impact.
- Event planned for September with recycling day coordination.
- Tracy seeking volunteers with clothing racks and hangers for setup.

Chainsaw Safety Class ([27:01](#) - [28:51](#))

- Scheduled for August 23rd at [9:00](#) AM with lunch following around [12:00-1:00](#) PM.
- 15 people signed up for general chainsaw safety instruction.
- Class conducted through Penn State Extension with instructor Trevor.
- Penn State Extension also offers free native trees and property consultation services.

Website and Documentation ([28:51](#) - [30:36](#))

- Website operational, seeking event photos from community members for posting.
- Emily managing website updates, accepting photo submissions from any board member.

Penny Social Event ([30:36](#) - [32:20](#))

- Originally scheduled for August 2nd but postponing due to insufficient preparation time.
- Event organizer needs more time to secure donations and create promotional materials.

- Community members asked to hold donated items until new date announced.

Bylaws Amendment and Board Development ([32:20](#) - [39:56](#))

- Bylaws amended to require all board members be Damascus Township residents (tax-paying residents).
- Amendment unanimously approved by vote.
- Seeking new board members from local business owners and community leaders.
- Potential candidates identified: Bruce/Bryce from local manufacturing, Dime Bank manager, Milanville General Store owners, Brian Smith (Wayne County Commissioner and dairy farm owner).
- Board selection process planned for September meeting with preparation in August.

Township Building Painting Initiative ([32:20](#) - [39:56](#))

- Red paint proposal for township building did not succeed with township supervisors.
- Some supervisors opposed to red color preference, prefer white.
- Initiative tabled for one month until Linda returns from travel.
- Community members encouraged to attend township supervisor meetings (third Monday of each month) for civic engagement.
- River Reporter now covers township meetings regularly.

Facility Improvements ([41:36](#) - [43:31](#))

- Kitchen reno completed.
- 70-inch monitor on rolling stand to replace blackboard and screen for presentations and meeting agendas.
- Historical society presentation planned to consolidate and organize wall pictures.
- Ongoing noise reduction solutions being researched.
- Microphone system consideration for future meetings.

Line Dancing Program ([43:31](#) - [45:36](#))

- Carol and Lainey proposed monthly line dancing events as exercise and social activity.
- Plan to use YouTube videos on new TV system for instruction.
- Looking for additional participants and potential instructors.
- Informal learning approach with participants teaching each other.

Meeting Logistics ([45:36](#) - [47:00](#))

- Meeting concluded with table and chair cleanup responsibilities shared among attendees.
- Regular monthly meeting schedule maintained.

Action Items

Unassigned

- Contact Adam Owens at Gold Radio for pepper festival trivia contest coordination ([24:45](#))
- Send chainsaw class signup information and details to registered participants ([27:01](#))
- Research and coordinate with Jim for 50/50 raffle at pepper festival ([13:30](#))

- Coordinate with Michelle Gam regarding food pantry space for clothing exchange event ([23:22](#))
- Contact potential board members: Bruce/Bryce (manufacturing), Dime Bank manager, Milanville General Store owners, Brian Smith (Wayne County Commissioner) ([39:56](#))
- Prepare board member recruitment discussion for August meeting and voting for September meeting ([37:56](#))
- Schedule new date for penny social event and create promotional materials ([30:36](#))

Tracy

- Organize September clothing exchange event focused on winter items ([20:24](#))
- Secure clothing racks and hangers for clothing exchange setup ([21:48](#))

Paula

- Continue recruiting participants for pepper festival potluck ([08:52](#))
- Coordinate with pepper dish contributors for sample preparation guidelines ([15:38](#))

Anna

- Contact pepper growers for flight of peppers coordination ([11:00](#))
- Provide guidelines for pepper preparation and cutting instructions before September meeting ([11:00](#))

Carol

- Organize line dancing program coordination and recruit additional participants ([43:31](#))
- Plan first line dancing session using YouTube instruction videos ([43:31](#))