**DMCC Meeting Minutes April 15th, 2025**

The Community Organization Meeting held on April 15 focused on fostering community engagement and planning upcoming events. After welcoming new attendees and reviewing the treasurer’s report, committee updates highlighted the Damascus Manor Community Center (DMCC) as a vital gathering space. Attendees proposed a seasonal music jam session and shared progress on a plant swap. Planning for a softball fundraiser in June was discussed, along with successful community craft gatherings. Members reviewed bylaws and discussed the establishment of a formal board. Upcoming events included a Hot Pepper Festival, with contests planned, and a Mother’s Day Pancake Breakfast. Action items were assigned for event planning and community initiatives. The meeting concluded with a call for quality photos for the new website and suggestions for acquiring a defibrillator. The meeting adjourned at [8:02](https://link.edgepilot.com/s/e27954e0/abWLRTfmtUugfY7LNWbdyQ?u=https://app.fireflies.ai/view/01JRXV8Q9VMWAHBFVDAXW39HYZ?t=482) PM.

**Welcome and Introductions**

* Meeting called to order at [7:07](https://link.edgepilot.com/s/dfb9469c/Yx_qCwKwqUStxiHLugeHeg?u=https://app.fireflies.ai/view/01JRXV8Q9VMWAHBFVDAXW39HYZ?t=427) PM
* Pledge of Allegiance led by Tina
* New attendees introduced themselves: Narani, Dustin’s wife originally from England, Emily and CJ from Beach Lake, Sheila from Milanville, lawyer who bravely advocated for the historic Skinners Falls Bridge, and Maria Hyde who raised her children in the area and recently returned from living in Kentucky.
* Treasurer’s report presented: Beginning balance $10,091.31, ending balance $9,460.70

**About DMCC and Committee Updates**

* Community encouraged to join existing groups or suggest new ones
* Music jam session group proposed by attendee, suggesting seasonal sessions (June-October) with performance at the end
* Plant swap group reported progress: Trees removed; flyers created
* Master gardener program seeking seedling donations
* Softball fundraiser planning: Looking at potential dates in June, coordinating with township supervisor Melissa. Event to include hot dogs, hamburgers, music, bounce house, and of course a softball game/tournament depending on how many teams sign up.
* First ‘Stitchin’ Bitch’ craft gathering reported successful with 8 people attending. Group meets first Monday of each month from 6:30pm to 8:30pm.
* Township gardening and beautification committee mentioned
* Committee for Amending Bylaws and Mission Statement has completed the mission statement. Bylaws nearly complete, currently getting business and legal review. Plans to establish a formal board of directors for the community center.
* Nature outings committee seeking more members; Damascus Forest (36-acre parcel) available for community use
* Hot Pepper Festival planned for October: Will include pepper eating contest, chili cook-off, and information sessions
* Damascus brand committee leadership changed with Dustin resigning and nominating two replacements CJ and Emily
* CPR organization training being explored through Red Cross and local Damascus Volunteer Ambulance Corps
* Discussion about potentially purchasing a defibrillator for the community center
* Yoga classes collected $607 in first season donations, targeted for health-related initiatives.
* Website development in progress; good quality photos requested

**Upcoming Events**

* **Yoga Classes** on Wednesdays with a new time of 5:30pm to 6:30pm.
* **Recycling & Mother’s Day Pancake Breakfast** scheduled for May 10th 8am until noon, with mothers eating free. Volunteer signup sent around
* **Community Plant Swap** scheduled for Saturday May 18th from 10 am to 2pm.
* **General Food Safety and Preparation Class** announced May 13th 6:30pm to 8:30pm. with Penn State Extension master food preserver. Discussions on canning, drying, freezing
* Meeting adjourned at [8:02](https://link.edgepilot.com/s/e27954e0/abWLRTfmtUugfY7LNWbdyQ?u=https://app.fireflies.ai/view/01JRXV8Q9VMWAHBFVDAXW39HYZ?t=482) PM
* **DMCC Meeting** Every 3rd Tuesday 6:30PM
* **Next DMCC Meeting is Tuesday May 20th at 6:30 PM**