

Donnell Lake Conservation Club- Meeting Minutes

Date: September 20, 2025

Recorder: Lori Allen, Secretary

Board Members Present: Doug Hertel, Lori Allen, Sue Golden, Jeremy Wassner, Kevin Cartwright, Gerri Sly, Jason Bay, Sherry Krask, Angie Steinman

Board Members Absent: Garrett Libertowski, Kim Barnbrook, Pat Frame, Gina Bergstrom, Debbie Chris

Community Members Present: Miriam Cartwright

A. Call to Order: Called to order regular meeting of DLCC on 9/20/25 at 2pm.

B. Introductions

- Meeting opened with introductions of 2025-26 Board Members. Welcome to our new board members.
 - President: Gerri Sly; Vice President: Doug Hertel; Past President Angie Steinman; Treasurer: Jeremy Wassner; Secretary: Lori Allen
 - Board Members Elect: Kim Barnbrook, Jason Bay, Gina Bergstrom, Kevin Cartwright, Debbie Chris, Pat Frame, Sue Golden, Sherry Krask, Garrett Libertowski
-

C. Clubhouse Maintenance Updates

- Clubhouse Maintenance Responsibilities
 - The board reviewed a list of maintenance tasks previously handled by Dave Bergstrom to determine current responsibility.
 - Mowing: Scott Chris will continue to mow at the clubhouse. (\$50 per session)
 - Pest Control: This is donated by Dave Klima, lake resident and owner of Aardvark. The new interim contact is Lauren Hertel. Nominal charge of \$30-\$50 to spray for mosquitoes prior to events.
 - Cleaning Service: Dar Nelund has been hired as the new cleaner.
 - Power Washing: This will be handled by volunteers during the spring cleanup.
 - Kitchen Cooler: The cooler will be turned off between events to avoid the need to empty the water tray. Event hosts will be responsible for turning it on beforehand and draining any condensation afterward as part of an event checklist.

- General Event Tasks: Several duties are now considered the responsibility of the person or group hosting an event.
 - **To do: Create an event checklist for person/group hosting to complete.**
 - Kevin Cartwright has agreed to make sure propane tanks are filled for pancake breakfast and corn and sausage roast events. Using Elkpark Feed Store (John has always donated the tank fills in the past).
 - Plant Watering: Gina and Kim are taking care of watering the new landscaping plants.
 - Furnace Filter: Changing the furnace filter will be incorporated into the spring cleanup tasks.
 - Lawn Mower Purchase
 - Board approved purchase of a used zero-turn mower from Chris Scott for \$350.
 - Maintenance needed: new rear tire(s), blade sharpening, tune-up. Kevin offered to assist w/maintenance.
 - Winter storage: Investigate options to shrink wrap and store under pavilion.
 - Griddle purchase/installation:
 - Kevin Cartwright purchased 36" Blackstone grill.
 - Kevin to install indoors with gas quick disconnect (possible additional costs).
-

D. Subcommittee Updates

- **Landscaping**
 - Work by Dussel's (rock + bush replacement) completed week of Sept. 10. Looks great!
-

E. Financial Update – Jeremy Wassner Report

- All banking/QuickBooks set up with Gerri & Doug as co-signers.
- PayPal available for reimbursements without incurring a fee. However, at this time, PayPal cannot accept money from members without fees.
- Michigan annual filing has been completed prior to 10/1 due date.
- \$200 donated to Centerpoint Volunteer Fire Dept. (Texas flood relief). Thank-you letter received.

- Discussion: move raffle savings into short-term CD (~\$1,000 interest potential, equivalent of 4 movie night licenses) Jeremy will gather more details from bank to present options at the next meeting.

- **Recap of Events-Expenses**

Events	
Corn & Sausage Roast	1,981.86
Movie Night (\$250 permit + food, etc.)	428.74
Blackstone Grill + supplies	538.28
Total for Events	2,410.60

- **Monthly Review- Income**

As of August 31, 2025		Corn and Sausage Roast Breakdown			
Capital Improvement Savings	10,720.06	Clothing/Merchandise	602		
Fireworks Savings	4,228.70	Corn and Sausage Roast			
Fish Stocking Acct. QB entry	4,390.00	50/50	353.00		
Operating Account	16,286.14	Bar Sales	1,179.00		
Raffle Savings	42,359.75	Food-CSR	3,380.00		
		Silent Auction	3,283.00		
		Tip Boards	676.00		
		Total for CSR	\$8,871.00		
		Raffle income	2,200.00		
		Total for Event Income	11,673.00		
		Hall Rental	100.00		

F. New Business

- Schedule ad-hoc planning meeting to discuss 2026 calendar year
 - Plan to extend DLCC board meeting on Oct 11th to discuss 2026 event calendar
- Open clubhouse year-round
 - Suggestion: keep club open year-round for residents (potlucks, dance lessons).
 - Concern: heating & pipe freeze risk.

- **To do:** Plan to use Wi-Fi sensors to monitor temperature and create volunteer list to respond to issues.
- Trial phase approved through New Years. Re-evaluate in December.
- Consider future HVAC upgrades if trial proves successful.

G. Public Comments- Non-board members: There were no public comments

H. DLCC Board Comments

- Event/Strategic Planning Meeting- Lori Allen
 - November 8: 1–3 year strategic planning session (minimum 2 hours).
 - Member Survey: Survey to gather member input for strategic plan (SurveyMonkey/Google Forms).
 - Angie will contact consultant she recently worked with who facilitated a strategic planning session for resources/recommendations.
 - October 11th meeting: Board members to bring ideas for survey categories.
 - Survey distributed before November session.
 - Patio expansion idea tabled until strategic planning session.
- Conservation Plan/Fish Stocking- Jeremy Wassner
 - Proposal to form subcommittee for conservation planning using fish study data.
 - Goal: strategic lake health management.
 - Committee would consult DNR (Matt Diana) and propose actions.
 - State funding question raised: Why some lakes receive state stocking support, Donnell does not.
 - Proposal to pursue \$50-permit habitat improvement project using on-site hardwoods.
 - Jason Bay will join subcommittee; Jeremy to reach out to others including: Jeff Corey, Jim Barnbrook.
 - Motion passed to form small group to meet DNR, gather facts, and propose management plan to the Board.
- Property Line Marking
 - Kevin Installed 2-ft, ¾-inch pipes (\$58).
 - Plan to install 3-inch corner markers. Poison ivy needs clearing.

8. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 3pm.
- Next Meeting: Saturday, October 11th 9am regular meeting; extended afterwards to discuss 2026 event calendar.
