

Friends of the Village of North Freedom, Inc.
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SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES - Monday, July 7, 2025 - 6:00 PM
Meeting Held at: North Freedom Community Center - 105 N Maple St, North
Freedom, WI 53951

Members Present: President Rick Hehenberger, Vice President Dawn Carignan,
Secretary/Treasurer David Emery, Hayden Breunig, Nicki Breunig, Mike
Carignan, Cat Hehenberger, Mary Luckhardt-Klemm, Rose Vertein.

President Hehenberger called meeting to order 6:00 PM.

Prior to meeting official business starting, President Rick Hehenberger gave a
big thank you to all who made the event happen.

1. Freedom Days 2025 Wrap-Up: All and all, for a first year, overall feelings were that things went good. There were some miscommunications with the events, especially over the carnival wristbands that felt that deterred people from coming. Maybe see about getting FD involved if they want to do one of their chicken dinners or something the weekend of. Could be an additional draw to get people to come. Fireworks were a great event. Maybe have another band up-town during the music in the park time if people don't want to be down in the park. Bean-Bag tournament went good - had 14 teams. They do prefer to throw on the grass so the basketball court was a little hot. Went over online survey results and events that were a part of Freedom Days. American Mini Pullers event was great. Move porta-potties/better locations. Carnival already did say that they were busy this weekend next year. Farmer's Market - do we look at pursuing next year? There weren't a lot of vendors this year. Ran into issues with Farmer's Market vendors because of how late things were advertised - a lot of those vendors already have their schedules planned out in the beginning of the year. Maybe start assigning people to be the head of something for the event for next year, i.e. looking for parade entries, looking for market vendors, etc. Afternoon music on Sunday did have a bit of a problem with the mini pullers engines - was overpowering

for the music. Went over financials. Being that the Village officially hosted this year's event, the revenue has been housed in the Village's bank account for community events. It would be a Village Board decision to relinquish any funds to the Friend's Group. Bring to Village Board in August.

2. Any Remaining 2025 Events Planning: Does committee want to pursue anything else this year? Couple of ideas presented. Will revisit them at the next meeting.
 - a. Trellis in Vodak Park Dedication ceremony: Possibly Veteran's Day weekend but also could be in other years to come. Maybe the Group could write another "Good Ideas Grant" through the County to have another event for the dedication. Baraboo High School Group 21 is always looking for veteran's themed events or something like that. Cat Hehenberger may have contact for people involved with group. Reviewed original project grant budget that was awarded to the Village. The remaining funds in that project was about \$20.00 left. Again, that was awarded to the Village so any disbursements need to come before the Village. Wanting to look at getting a plaque to go by trellis.

Plaque to say:
"The Sickle Tree
Designed by Neary "Oz" Oostdik
Dedicated in Honor of the North Freedom Veterans"
Tentative Event Date: Sunday, November 9, 2025 AM - have Donuts, Coffee.
Do we have a budget? Maybe see if the Group 21 can fundraise and if Village Board would give funds for event out of Vodak Park bank account.
 - b. Another idea presented of Holiday Bazar with Light Parade, Tree Lighting, Santa & Cookies, Chili/Soup Cookoff? Trophies? Nicki to check with Rock Springs church and Rock Springs Village Office.

Tentative Event Date: Saturday, November 29, 2025
3. Freedom Days 2026 Planning: Look at something on a smaller scale?

Tossed out ideas: local food vendors/church/non-profit for food stands, smaller carnival for rides, maybe look at some place for games, tournament down in the park, book musicians, Kindschi Pedal Pullers,

petting zoo? Will revisit at next meeting.

Tentative Event Dates: June 26-28, 2026

4. Other Items: Next meeting August 18, 2025 - 6:00 PM
5. Adjourn: Adjourned at 7:35 PM