

Friends of the Village of North Freedom, Inc.
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SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES - Monday, July 20, 2026 - 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 Dave Emery, Hayden Breunig, Nicki Breunig, Mike
Carignan, Mary Luckhardt-Klemm, Athena Markley, Gus Robertson, and Rose
Vertein all present in person.

Guests Present: Jeremy Zimmerman, Lincoln & Everlee Breunig present in
person.

President Hehenberger called meeting to order 6:02 PM.

1. Approval of Any Outstanding Meeting Minutes: Members reviewed and approved Minutes.
2. Freedom Days 2026 Wrap Up Discussion/Brainstorm: Committee Members provided feedback on what they thought worked and didn't work. Reviewed public survey feedback and email submission regarding car show. Consensus that should look into carnival rides or something more for families/kids. Look for bounce houses that have their own staff to tend + insurance - double check with BABA as they had bounce houses, who did they use? Group should talk with Darrell Weiland. Big discussion on how to get the people here. Noted that there was a gap in between parade and when music started so maybe moving the parade later to avoid gaps in between events. Feeling that it is too spread out. How to combat that. During parade it was noted what channel it was on. Maybe coordinate with FD on use of radios? Find radios? Need a couple more people or another deputy to maybe help with traffic control. Lots of schedule conflicts this year may have caused the decline in attendance along with no carnival. Lutheran church giving a donation of approximately \$280.00 for cookie sales. Car show is growing and needs more space. Where to put them? Concessions down in the park would be a great opportunity for the Friends Group to make money. Maybe work with Library and could have a joint one. Want the local businesses to also receive some of the public support.

Specific Member feedback:

-D.Carignan: Have a prize for floats. Maybe a card tournament or

something to that extent.

-M.Carignan: Posted more signs for car show. Poster way too big.

N.Breunig offered during M.Carignan's feedback to work with Mike and maybe we can create something in house off of Canva on regular paper. Work with sponsor amounts and only Silver and Gold are on the posters? Saves space in the sponsor area.

-Luckhardt-Klemm: More shade or places to sit downtown.

-H.Breunig: Markee signs really worked. Mini-pullers is always a great event.

-Robertson: Heard a lot from public that didn't know this was happening. 50/50 sales were great uptown, not so much down in the park. Brought up idea of Agate drop.

-Vertein: Maybe different type of music needed.

Group had leftover silent auction items. N.Breunig wanting to know what group wanted to do with it. Motion to gift to the Freedom Day King & Queen as a prize Emery/M.Carignan. Motion carried 9-0.

3. Freedom Days 2027 Planning/Date Set: Need to find a carnival. But tentatively selecting Friday, June 25 - Sunday, June 27, 2026. Will circle back next meeting to determine if it will be a 2 or 3 day event.

4. Any Other 2026 Events

- a. Veteran's Day Celebration/250th?: Sunday, November 8, 2026 - 1:00 PM. Luckhardt-Klemm kind of heading this. Will discuss more at next meeting.

- b. Winter Celebration?: Saturday, November 28, 2026 - 6:00 PM. Working on the layout of parade route. Offer sleigh rides? Who to find? Have a judge? QR code? People's Choice? Prize? Will discuss more at next meeting.

- c. Any Other Ideas?: No other ideas presented.

5. Other Items: Finances sitting at \$6,385.52. Was approved for a raffle license. Approval came in really close to Freedom Days 2026 therefore no raffle was considered but ran some 50/50s. Those went well. Friday night had better results. Motion to purchase raffle tickets in pastel blue color Emery/Hehenberger. Motion carried 9-0.

Next Meeting Date(s): Monday, August 24, 2026 - 6:00 PM

6. Adjourn - 8:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nicki Breunig, Board Assistant