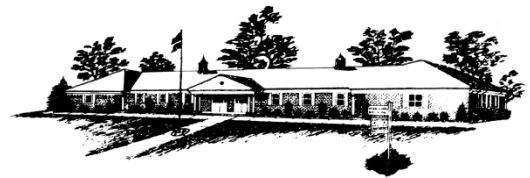


Village of Hales Corners

5635 S. New Berlin Road
Hales Corners, WI 53130
Phone: (414) 529-6161
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James R. Ryan Municipal Building

JULY 4TH COMMITTEE Minutes April 9, 2026 Village Hall (Meadows Room)

- 1.0 **Call to Order & Roll Call**- N. Wilkes called to order at 6:30pm.
Present: N. Wilkes, Dan Besson, Diane Besson, O. Stern, A. Dunning, J. Gilboy, R.Dodd
- 2.0 **Treasurer's Report**
 - No Financial Report
- 3.0 **Treasurer Election**
 - The committee will hold an election for Treasurer at the next Meeting
- 4.0 **Safety & Security Review**
 - Officer Henner was not present.
 - Road construction updates discussed, no anticipated conflicts with event routes.
- 5.0 **Food and Drink Vendors**
 - Expanded vendor plan approved for 2026 (250th celebration).
 - Two locations:
 - Library lot
 - New Berlin Road (near playground)
 - Confirmed vendors include:
 - Elmer's American
 - Eric Eats
 - Rondavu Shaved Ice
 - The Cha House
 - Top Dogg!
 - Perspective Brewing
 - Health Department requires:
 - License documentation
 - \$30 inspection fee
 - Vendors required to manage trash; \$150 refundable deposit required.
- 6.0 **Theme for 2026**
 - "Theme confirmed: *Proud Past, Bright Future*
 - "Small Village Big Freedom" reserved for 2027 (75th Anniversary).
- 7.0 **Website** – Committee members must make any necessary updates to their events and send to N. Wilkes who will make changes to the website..

8.0 Events

8.1 Firecracker Four

- New route approved; improves flow and reduces turns.
- Route to be measured manually.
- Need updated route description and map for website.
- Water stop volunteer needed (previous volunteer unavailable).
- Shirts ordered through Ideal Logos.

8.2 Holz Car Show

- D. Besson reported that planning is underway.

8.3 Children's Parade

- A. Dunning said new signage and markers secured (color-coded).
- Sponsored by Prime Printing.
- Volunteers secured.

8.4 Ice Cream & Children's Games

- No Discussion
- E. Valaitis not present

8.5 Patriotic Pet Costume Contest

- N. Wilkes has this fully organized with judges and prizes secured.

8.6 Pie Baking Contest

- E. Valaitis has medals ordered.
- Drop-off: 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM
- Judging begins at noon.

8.7 Hot Dog Eating Competition

- Still need a coordinator for this event
- N. Wilkes shared that the event is sponsored by Elmer's American:
 - \$100 contribution
 - Gift certificates for top 3 winners

8.8 Bed Races

- R. Lindner not present
- No Discussion

8.9 Big Parade

- O. Stern is working on recruitment of parade units ongoing.
- Budget allows for additional units if needed.
- Potential participants include:
 - Local municipalities
 - UW Marching Band (contacted)
 - Harley-Davidson group
 - Kwik Trip mascot
- Parade Marshal suggested: Lori Komars (Hales Corners Elementary, retiring) N. Wilkes to reach out and ask.
- Vehicle options for Parade Marshal under consideration (school vehicle, pickup, convertible).
- Parade application to be updated and posted online by Ian.

New in 2026 Discussion

- Cornhole equipment available; coordinator needed.
- Tug-of-war discussed; rope available but coordinator needed.
- Event timing (5–7 PM or 6–8 PM) to be finalized.

- Ideal Logos assisting with T-shirt sponsorship and online pre-sales.
- Pre-sale window proposed: April 30 – June 13.
- Drone photography: No licensed operator currently available
- External options being explored

9.0 **Adjournment 7:32 pm**

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, April 29th at 6:30 pm.

DRAFT