

**Historic Preservation Commission  
Town of Westport**

Minutes of the regular monthly meeting of the Commission of March 6, 2014

Members present: Peter Bloch, Ron Bowen, Martin Timmins, Nancy Schlimgen and Dave O'Malley

Members absent: Ray Mejia

Others present: None

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:10 p.m.

**February 6, Minutes**

The minutes were approved unanimously.

**Old Business**

Historic Resources Consultant- Rebecca Bernstein presented a draft plan for the Wilcox site and we discussed many good ideas. The plan and discussion centered on interpretation and further investigation of the homesite area and an interpretive path that will circumnavigate the cropland. (For details everything is laid out in the written plan developed by Rebecca)

All agreed on the interpretive focus of the plan and the general ideas and layout. Rebecca had proposed a picnic shelter at the homesite but discussed an option to have an interpretive kiosk instead similar to Jackson Landing and Westport Drumlin. Ron also suggested in lieu of a shelter we could blade the foundation area and have a type of foundation girder or bench that would span the site 25' or so to outline part of the homesite. We also discussed the proposed archeological event to include the public which could include scraping, etc. to gradually expose the foundation. We would need to contract most likely with Phil Salkin to coordinate this. Next steps include refining the plan, details for public event, further discuss easement with the County and review with Town Administration.

Informal Interviews- No activity on this but keep in mind future interview possibilities.

Old Military Road Survey- Continue followup with Bob Birmingham, the State Archaeologist office and followup with possible trail connections with the Parks committee.

**New Business**

A question was raised regarding what is happening with the old Westport Town Hall. Shouldn't we be involved in discussions regarding the future of the building. Are we interested in preserving this for some kind of adaptive reuse? Ron asked if Nancy could followup and talk with Bob Anderson about future plans for the building

**Miscellaneous Business**

It was noted that St. Mary of the Lake Church is having their 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. It was suggested there may be some long term congregation members that would be good candidates for an informal interview

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Commission was scheduled for April 10th at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Administration Building.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business brought before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Dave O'Malley