

**Historic Preservation Committee  
Town of Westport**

Minutes of the regular monthly meeting of the Committee of June 5, 2014

Members present: Ron Bowen, Ray Mejia and Dave O'Malley, Nancy Schlimgen

Members absent: Peter Bloch

Others present: Jeanette Hermanson

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

**Old Business**

Historic Resources Consultant- We discussed the status of work at the Ella Wheeler Wilcox site and next steps that we need to follow through on. It was noted that Tom Wilson and Rebecca Bernstein will be meeting with Dane County to discuss plans for the homesite and surrounding property. We agreed a site plan needs to be completed and the ball is in our court to get this drawn up with Rebecca. A plan would propose specific features for interpretation and public use such as a ground level timber frame to roughly outline the foundation area of the house, interpretive signs, and a walking path around the perimeter of the property. This would include a gravel parking area next to the road with a path to the homesite. We also discussed having a small kiosk and possibly have memorabilia from the homesite contained within. We thought possibly about four medium size interpretive signs around the property and maybe the big historical marker could be moved closer to the actual homesite? Lots of ideas and we are in agreement on a general theme for the property. All felt that a timeline to get this complete could be by the end of September.

Informal Interviews- Nothing new but keep in mind future interview possibilities.

Old Military Road – We discussed Peter Bloch's work on the overlay map with the trail shown on a present day map. It would make sense to locate where we could make connection with existing Township trails and possibly have interpretive signs noting where the Old Military Road (aka Fort Winnebago Trail). We all agreed we should meet later this summer to walk some of the trail where there may be an intersection with the Old Military Road to get a better idea what we could do. We decided Peter should take over on the Military Road activities since he is to be very good at the mapping and researching some of the background information.

**New Business**

None

**Miscellaneous Business**

None

**Next Meeting**

It was decided to avoid the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday week and the next meeting of the Committee was scheduled for July 10th at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Administration Building.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business brought before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm

Respectfully submitted,  
Dave O'Malley