

**Historic Preservation Committee
Town of Westport**

Minutes of the regular monthly meeting of the Committee on July 10, 2014 at the Town Administrative building.

Members present: Peter Block, Ron Bowen, Ray Meija and Nancy Schlimgen

Members Absent: Dave O'Malley

Others present: None

Call to Order

Old Business

1. Status Report of Ella Wheeler Wilcox Homesite by Ray. This included references by Rebecca Bernstein (by way of correspondence of July 1st to Committee members).
2. Committee discussion on Wilcox Homesite Park Development Concept Options:
 - a. Inspiration from Jackson's Landing shelter and signage was considered.
 - b. Picnic Shelter: Ron suggests design that portrays "symbolic house indication"
 - c. Interpretative Signs: As an entrance signage or associated with the picnic shelter like at Westport Drumlin's kiosk as an example was mentioned. Possibly with "a display box for artifacts. Nan suggests trail signage like that at Town of Middleton's Pope Farm Park.
 - d. Benches: Along a more curvilinear trail (to the extent possible) possibly like "Leopold Benches" or with rustic flavor.
 - e. Prairie Planting- Inspiration from Empire Prairies-Westport Drumlin State Natural prairie plant selection was considered. With less clay the thought was the soil remaining would retain less moisture, so prairie plants adapted to drier sites would be best. With soil disturbance the question is how would the weed seed bank respond to this? Prior cultivation often eliminates this weed competition issue. More information is needed on the site preparation before seeding. However if this is resolved seeding could take place as a dormant seed planting late fall. Regardless, grassy paths if chosen could be seeded as soon as work is completed. Nancy offered to help review species selection and site plan if desired.
3. Blue Mounds to Fort Winnebago Trail Update: Peter Block credited the assistance of his friend with overlaying the surveyors' map with more current maps. Any further help with this is questionable with his limited availability.
 - a. Nancy wondered if a UW student or intern could assist with such a GIS project
4. Committee toured Jackson's Landing that evening at the end of the meeting.

New Business

None

Miscellaneous Business

None

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting was scheduled for July 7, 2014 however due to quorum concerns the meeting was later rescheduled for July 21, 2014 at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Administration Building.

Adjournment

There being no further business brought before the Committee, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Nancy Schlimgen