

**TOWN OF WESTPORT
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING**

Kennedy Administration Building
Community Meeting Room
5387 Mary Lake Road
Waunakee, WI 53597

MINUTES of August 2, 2018

Members present:, Janette Hermanson, Ray Mejia, Joe Pichette, Nancy Schlimgen

Member absent: Mimi Bloch

Public present: Rebecca Bernstein, Historic Resource Consultant

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at approximately 6:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by Joe to approve Minutes for both April 5th with revisions and those for July 12th.
All members present in agreement.

NEW BUSINESS

Identifying and Prioritizing Properties of Historical Significance in Westport
Oncken Road Farm History

After incorporating Robert Oncken's with his daughter's interview, Rebecca will provide a *Summary History of Oncken Road Farms* for HPC review at next September's meeting.

Future EWW Park Development Update

Rebecca met Allison from Dane County Solid Waste Department locating Ella Wheeler Wilcox's (EWW) foundation. She reports that the site has been graded beautifully with a berm as a basis for a path to the foundation site. Envisioned with a border or buffer of shortgrass surrounded by prairie of pollinator supporting plantings. Mowed walking paths are anticipated on the firebreaks, berms and around water retention ponds. Bringing Westport's Park Commission (A Park's Liaison with HPC) more into this project at this time, matches with anticipated more involvement with Darren Marsh's staff within the County Parks Department after this reclamation process, following the clay removal of the site by the Solid Waste Division. Any shelter (building style) or other Park Plans for example could potentially receive joint input from Westport's HPC and Park Commission.

Concerning interpreting the foundation, Joe recalls Epic architecturally having only a partial corner and window of the structure built that represented another concept for such a shelter design.

Other shelter plans have been contemplated previously including ones of Ron Bowen's.

Interpreting Westport's Archaeological Sites
History Trail Proposal

Joe discovered inconsistencies with the Final Military Trail route in his research which he

relayed to the HPC. *Trail designations along Hwy. 12 follow the Lodi-Springfield Road along Ashton Corners and crossed off at DM and Dane, stating that the original Military Trail did come through Westport. However, after the Blackhawk War of 1838-39, which moved Native Americans to Iowa and South Dakota, (a first hand emotional account of their moving from the Picnic Point area on the shores of Lake Mendota exists) suspended the Doty Survey out of Green Bay, the Trail was left cut off along Ashton Corners.*

Rebecca has devised a draft of a *Letter of Interest* to potential partners of a multi-agency **Cultural Resources Trail** within the Historic Westport Township. Following HPC input, revisions of the final draft by Rebecca are forthcoming for review next meeting.

HPC Speaker Series at Senior Center

Fall and Winter into Spring —Speaker Selection for Senior Center

On Friday, November 2nd at 2pm at the Village and Westport Senior Center, Roger Bindl will show his Schumacher Farm video and book he has written. Rebecca has an announcement in the next Horizon's Waunakee Village publication. Schumacher Farm staff will be invited to partner with his presentation and may bring copies of Marcella Pendall's *Mamma Papa and Me* for those interested in purchasing either book.

Nancy will contact a potential speaker, a local historical author, for the Senior Center HPC Hosted Series for the winter into spring season event based on their availability on Fridays at 2pm.

Donald Sanford: *On Fourth Lake: A Social History of Lake Mendota*

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING and AGENDA ITEMS

Identifying and Prioritizing Properties of Historical Significance in Westport*

Oncken Road Farm History

Future EWW Park Development Update

Prospects for Park Commission liaison with HPC

Interpreting Westport's Archaeological Sites

History (Cultural Resources) Trail Proposal

HPC Speaker Series for Senior Center

HPC Social Media Presence through Website Development

Senior Thesis Connecting HPC with Social Media Proposal

**Historic Preservation Within Future Westport Development Corridors*

The Historic Preservation Commission meets the first Thursday of each month, unless otherwise stated at 6 p.m. in the Community Meeting Room of the Town Center. The next meeting is on September 6, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT

Ray moved to adjourn, Janette seconded the motion with all in favor. Meeting was adjourned ~7:00p.m.