

**TOWN OF WESTPORT**  
**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING**  
Kennedy Administration Building  
Community Meeting Room  
5387 Mary Lake Road  
Waunakee, WI 53597

**MINUTES** of November 1, 2018

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

Members absent: Mimi Bloch

Public present: Rosa Ropers, President of Friends of Schumacher Farm

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order at approximately 6:02 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion by Joe to approve Minutes for October 4th. Nancy seconded the motion with members present approval.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Future Ella Wheeler Wilcox (EWW) County Park Development Update**

Completion of EWW Park is HPC's Priority Focus. However, Rebecca Bernstein, our Historic Resources Consultant, will clarify timeline discussed with County Staff at next meeting, affecting how we proceed. Ray thought that there may be up to a 5 year delay in transferring the land from the County's Sanitation and Disposal to the Parks Department, which may or may not in turn put our EWW interpretative project on hold, at which time HPC will adjust our focus.

**Potential Collaboration with Schumacher Farm County Park**

Rosa Ropers, President of Friends of Schumacher Farm, which is also a County Park within Westport, *feels collaboration between us (HPC and Schumacher Farm) is good!*

Ray mentioned holding HPC meetings for many years at Schumacher Farm and the strong connection with Judy Borke as previous Park Coordinator, active on the HPC. Jeanette also recalls that the County Park's staff had at one time talked about connecting Schumacher Farm County Park with a Bicycle/Pedestrian Path to EWW County Park.

In mentioning signage for EWW Park, Rosa mentioned that Schumacher Farm had received a grant from a Westport individual for outdoor signage for prairies and buildings and thought it would be great to coordinate efforts or create a compatible look in our Parks for signage.

**Identifying and Prioritizing Westport Properties of Historical and Archeological Significance**

Rebecca has proposed a HPC project with budget to Tom Wilson. Ray suggested have a planning session here first to make realistic use of time for the survey in creating Westport's Historic and Archaeological Cultural Resources Map. Using these maps creates an awareness that helps show the potential for our Town's cultural resources to disappear if HPC takes no action.

*Summary History of Oncken Farmstead* Draft for HPC review to be continued at next meeting.

HPC hopes to identify significant property on Oncken, as we hear more from Rebecca and with further review. Our intention may (ideally) be not to get another barn torn down.

### **Interpreting Westport's Historical and Archaeological Sites**

**Historical and Archaeological Cultural Resources** Our 3rd HPC priority.

### **HPC Speaker Series at Senior Center Reminders**

#### ***Fall and Winter into Spring —Speaker Selection for Senior Center***

Presentation goal: Involvement with senior engagement as possible sources of oral histories.

Coming-up speakers at the Village and Westport Senior Center:

- On Friday, November 2nd at 2 pm Roger Bindl will feature his Schumacher Farm Video and his book: *Marcella and the Schumacher Farm Park*, (also on sale at Westport's Town Center Office) along with Amy Jo Dusick, Schumacher Farm County Park Administrator.  
(Another reason for Rosa's visit to HPC related to Schumacher Farm)
- On Friday April 5th 2019 at 2 pm Donald Sanford: Author of *On Fourth Lake: A Social History of Lake Mendota* with highlights of our Westport vicinity in his presentation.

### **HPC Social Media Presence through Website Development**

How does our facebook page get monitored? Joe states that while it will allow anyone to post, it needs to get approved by a member of the town or moderators of HPC. Still need website linked to this facebook page created by 2019. Noted to maintain tie in or link with Schumacher Farm.

### **MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

#### **NEXT MEETING and AGENDA ITEMS**

Future EWW Park Development Update

Potential Signage and Other Collaboration with Schumacher Farm County Park

Identifying and Prioritizing Westport Properties of Historical and Archaeological Significance

Westport's Historical and Archaeological Cultural Resources—HPC Map

*Oncken Farmstead History*

Interpreting Westport's Historical and Archaeological *Cultural Resources*

HPC Speaker Series for Senior Center

HPC Social Media Presence through Website Development

*Facebook Page Creation*

*Senior Thesis Connecting HPC with Social Media Proposal*

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 December 6, 2018.**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Ray motioned to adjourn, Joe seconded, with all in favor. Meeting adjourned at ~7:00 p.m.