

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

**MINUTES** of March 7, 2019

Members present: Mimi Bloch, Janette Hermanson, Ray Mejia, Joe Pichette, Nancy Schlimgen  
Public present: Rosa Ropers, President of Friends of Schumacher Farm

**CALL TO ORDER**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion to approve Minutes for December 6th. Members concur.

**NEW BUSINESS**

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

**Historic Preservation Commission's (HPC's) Historical Resources Consultant's Role**

Joe and Ray relay to commission from Dean Grosskopf, our Town Chair and Tom Wilson, Town Administrator a reminder that our (HPC) does not have a budget in response to recent expenses submitted by our Historical Resource Consultant. Ray notes that our Historical Resource Consultant provides valuable continuity, expertise with HPC project insights and oversight! However, discussion ensued as how to best proceed given limited if any financial resources. Therefore, it is recommended that HPC needs to re-focus on more tasks internally within our Commission than rely on our Historical Resources Consultant, Rebecca Bernstein's assistance. Reducing Rebecca's attendance at meeting to quarterly was one suggestion. Completing projects where research is nearly finished with reports yet to be written were offered in order to continue with progress on our priorities. "Defining project by project involvement" counsels Ray. Seeking State grant funding for Historic Preservation efforts with the help of Tom, members of our commission and with input from Rebecca for example for our Mapping of Westport's Cultural Resources was mentioned as a hopeful potential source of future funding.

**Summary History of Oncken Farmstead Final Report for HPC review**

Rebecca sent a final report for HPC members to review on-line. Printed copies at next meeting may be helpful in this process. The question remains as to if any further landmark designation is desired for the wooded area, barn, silos, view sheds or other historical sites. (Blackwoods School on Oncken Rd. was so named due to the dark green appearance of the tree leaves in summer.)

**HPC Social Media Presence through Website Development**

HPC facebook page is now available *thanks to Tom and Joe!* Joe will post a link to *Summary*

*History of Oncken Farmstead*, our recently completed HPC report by Rebecca. Also Nancy has some pictures of landscape views of the farmland before it's on-going development at *The Communities of Bishop's Bay at the Prairie and Farm* off of Highway M that she will send to Joe, to have the option of posting to our HPC site.

### **HPC Speaker Series at Senior Center Spring and Fall 2019—Speaker Selection**

- 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.

Nancy and Mimi plan to attend Patty Lowe's program concerning First Nation's People involvement in our local landscape at Holy Wisdom Monastery to see if a possible fall speaker.

### **MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**

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

Discuss Re-assignment of HPC Projects

*Additional projects pending to include the following items:*

- Identifying and Prioritizing Westport Properties of Historical and Archaeological Significance
  - Westport's Historical and Archaeological Cultural Resources—HPC Map Interpretation
  - Oncken Farmstead History* and Potential Landmark Designations
- Future EWW Park Development Update—Revisit County Time-line and Town Partnership
  - Potential Signage and Other Collaboration with Schumacher Farm County Park
- HPC Social Media Presence through Website Development
  - Facebook Page Creation*
  - Senior Thesis Connecting HPC with Social Media Proposal*
- HPC Speaker Series for Senior Center

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 April 4, 2019.**

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Joe motioned to adjourn with Mimi 2nd. Meeting adjourned at ~7:00 p.m.