

**TOWN OF WESTPORT  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION**

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

**MINUTES** - February 6, 2020

Members present: Joe Pichette, Janette Hermanson, Michelle Wing, Rosa Ropers, Mimi Bloch, Chris Moore

Absent: None

Public present: None

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m. No public comment on matters not on the agenda. Motion by Rosa to approve minutes for December 5, 2020. Joe seconded the motion with members voting in approval.

**Speaker Series:** Members discussed different locations and speaker options. Members agreed facilitating sessions for Spring could be challenging - (Noted the library needs 6 weeks notice). Members discussed options for topics which could include; early settlers, geological impacts, early farming, locals with moderator to stimulate availability, interest; Bill Quackenbush, David Stamfield, Rich Hellenbrand, Elliot Funmaker, Lory B. Bessler (WI State Historical Society Genealogist). Chris will reach out to Bill Quackenbush. Members noted David Stamfield could be Fall speaker - Commission was interested to determine if he could talk about lands here in Westport area, maybe where Military Road/Native trail existed. It was noted David will be at Schumacher February 20, 2020. Members noted this could be an October session. Possibilities for venues in Westport are Schumacher Farms and Benedictine Center.

**Oncken Farm binder** - Joe noted is on the shelf in the Town Office.

**Ella Wheeler Wilcox** - Signs are now on display at the Westport Town Hall. Joe has not heard anything back from the Town on site access, he will follow up.

**Bike Trail access** - Joe noted is may be too late to have the planned bike trail align with Military Road, however there might be an opportune location where the paths cross. Members envision there could be locations (more than one) for interpretive sign(s) (possibly 3 or 4 opportunities). Members agreed Commission needs to start planning for content. Joe will follow up with Tom about this.

**Discussion of military trail documents** - Joe noted it may be beneficial to bring Bob Birmingham in to meet with HPC to gain some insight. HPC could also consider bringing surveyors back in. Joe will ask Tom Wilson about getting the existing survey information overlaid onto more recent maps of the area for better ability to see the relationship between old military road and current conditions.

**Old Mill Site** - Members reviewed Michelle's draft and noted the quality of the work and information. Members wondered if any original signs might be available. Joe will post on Facebook, Rosa will reach out to Jim Koltes.

**Signage discussion** - Given HPC needs (upcoming) for signage, Members discussed the need to consider signage designs more specifically. Joe noted there has been past discussion on the Town Board about creating sign standards for the Town. Joe will reach out to Mark Trotter and talk to Tom Wilson. Chris noted this would be a good time to consider cohesive system, as HPC might need interpretive signing, and should be consistent with Town sign system. Chris will pull examples of sign systems for reference and share with Commission.

**HPC Archives** - Members noted need for better archival system for materials that have been digitized. Joe is going to ask about setting up an online file drive for HPC.

**Misc. Business/Forthcoming Events** - Joe met with Waunakee Village Administrator Todd Schmidt on behalf of the HPC. Todd discussed Waunakee's upcoming 150<sup>th</sup> celebration and mentioned interest in area history.

The next meeting of the HPC will be on March 5, 2020.

Michelle moved to adjourn, Janette seconded with all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Minutes by Chris Moore.